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Thatcher at Chernenko funeral

GORBACHEV, 54 LEADS RUSSIA

Soviet hierarchy back new generation

MR MIKHAIL GORBACHEV became head of the Soviet Communist party yesterday at the age of 54 in the quickest succession to the Kremlin leadership since Stalin took over power in 1924. Mr Gorbachev was named as general secretary of the party four hours and 15 minutes after the announcement of the death of 73-year-old Mr Konstantin Chernenko.

Mr Gorbachev, youngest member of the ruling Politburo, is seen as a potential reformer with a more realistic view of the West than some other members of the Soviet leadership.

In his first policy pronouncement after taking over he re-affirmed Moscow's policy of "peaceful co-existence" and said the Soviet Union's aim was to end the arms race and halt the development of new weapons systems on earth and in space."

The Kremlin decided even before President Chernenko's death was officially announced that Soviet-American arms talks should begin in Geneva today as planned.

Mrs Thatcher, who said after meeting Mr Gorbachev last year that she liked him and "could do business with him," is to fly to Moscow for tomorrow's funeral of President Chernenko. She will be accompanied by the leaders of the Opposition parties. But President Reagan will not be present.

Obituary, background, cartoon and pictures—Pp 6 & 7; Editorial Comment—P16.

President Chernenko—leader for only 13 months.

Succession is speeded

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

MR MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, 54, was named leader of the Soviet Communist party yesterday after an announcement that President Konstantin Chernenko had died on Sunday, aged 73.

The speed of the announcement of the new leader suggested that contingency plans for the succession — the quickest in recent Soviet history — had been well-prepared in advance.

Mr Gorbachev, youngest and best-educated member of the ruling Politburo, had been regarded for about a year as the Kremlin heir-apparent. He impressed Mrs Thatcher during his London visit in December as someone she liked and could do business with.

'Unanimous' election to post

Russians approached in the street said that, after the deaths of three leaders in as many years, they were pleased the party had chosen a general secretary who was young and healthy.

"Mr Chernenko had been suffering for a long time from pulmonary emphysema," said an official bulletin. He died at 7.20 p.m. on Sunday Moscow time when his heart failed because of the effects of lung and liver disease.

He was the oldest man ever to assume the Soviet party leadership and his 13-month tenure was the briefest. He was named in February last year to follow President Andropov who held power for only 15 months after President Brezhnev died in November, 1982.

Mr Chernenko's death was announced at 2 p.m., after a morning of sombre programmes on radio and television, in the same way that announcements were made of the deaths of his two predecessors.

Then the usual procedure speeded up dramatically. Mr Gorbachev was almost immediately named head of the funeral commission and, by early evening TASS, the official news agency reported that he had been unanimously elected leader at a special session of the 300-member party central committee.

This process took from Friday until Monday after Mr Andropov died.

One reason for the speed may have been that Mr Chernenko, a white-haired Siberian of asth-

Continued on Back P, Col 4

New era dawns in Kremlin

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

MIKHAIL SERGEYEVICH GORBACHEV is seen as an unusually well-educated and open-minded Kremlin leader, with a lively interest in modernisation and reform.

He is young enough, at 54, to lead the Soviet Union for the next 20 years and provide continuity badly needed after the deaths of three Kremlin chiefs since 1982.

His recent visit to Britain showed him to be intelligent, articulate and tough. He ably represented Soviet arms control positions and threw back charges of human rights violations.

Brezhnev recruit

Western Kremlin-watchers and some Western statesmen find him a refreshing change from the dour, oldergeneration Politburo members. Mrs Thatcher said after meeting him, "I like Mr Gorbachev. We can do business together."

But experts are reluctant to call him a "Liberal". Anyone who rises to the top in Kremlin politics at such an early age must, it is assumed, be as hard as Red Square cobblestones.

Mr Gorbachev's swift rise is all the more remarkable because it was achieved despite the chronic failures of Soviet agriculture, his prime area of responsibility in recent years.

His attempts to reform the farm system by introducing limited incentives and greater autonomy for pro-

Continued on Back P, Col 3

KINNOCK URGES DRIVE FOR PEACE

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Kinnock, Labour leader, yesterday sent the Russian people his "condolences at their great loss" and urged the new leadership: "The establishment of a lasting and stable peace between nations must be the highest priority."

Mr Steel, the Liberal leader, said Mr Chernenko "will perhaps best be remembered for encouraging the developing of a new generation of younger leaders."

Dr Owen, the SDP leader said: "Mr Gorbachev will still be part of a collective leadership for quite some time. But steadily and slowly I would expect him to show his personality in the Russian position world-wide and particularly in the Geneva negotiations."

£73m NEW ROAD

By Our Transport Correspondent

A £73 million new road planned by the Greater London Council to run for $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Tottenham Hale to the north part of Enfield has been approved by the Government.

£ HITS RAW MATERIAL COSTS

By Our Economics Correspondent

The pound's slide against the dollar has put strong upward pressure on industry's raw material costs, which rose by 9·5 per cent in the year to February, the highest yearly increase since September, 1983.

Prices charged to wholesalers last month were 6·1 per cent higher than a year earlier, against 6·2 per cent in January, but there are signs that factory-gate prices are beginning to accelerate.

Details—19

Index to other pages PAGE

Art Sales	14
Arts Notices	13
Births, Marriages and Deaths	8 and 28
City News 18, 19, 21 and	22
City Prices	18
Court and Social	14
Entertainments Guide	27
Commercial Property	23
Leader Page	16
Obituaries	14
Parliamentary Report	
Personal	14
Radio Review	13
Sport	24, 25 and 26
TV and Radio	27
Way of the World	14
Woman's Page	15

The new Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, 54, with his wife Raisa during his visit to London in December.

Thatcher's chance of meeting

By JAMES WIGHTMAN Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and three Opposition leaders will attend the funeral of President Chernenko in Moscow tomorrow.

Mrs Thatcher may also have a talk with his successor, Mr Gorbachev, whom she met in London last year and of whom she said afterwards: "I like him. We can do business together."

She sent him a message of congratulations on his appointment as party chief last night after sending an earlier message of condolence to the Russian people on the death of their leader.

A statement from 10 Downing Street yesterday afternoon said:

The Prime Minister has learnt with regret of the death of President Chernenko after a grave illness. Although he held the highest office for a relatively short period, his loss has deprived the Soviet Union of an experienced leader.

At Mr Chernenko's funeral she will again be accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, and travelling on the same R A F aircraft at her invitation will be Mr Kinnock, Mr Steel and Dr Owen, the Labour, Liberal and S D P leaders.

The appointment of a much younger Rusian leader has raised the hope of British politicians that East-West relations can enter a more harmonious era, particularly in the nuclear arms control talks now starting in Geneva.

'Not in doubt'

Downing Street yesterday provided transcripts of the B B C interview in which the Prime Minister said that she liked Mr Gorbachev.

In the interview she added: "We both believe in our own political systems.

"But we have two great interests in common: that we should both do everything we can to see that war never starts again, and therefore we go into the disarmament talks determined to make them succeed.

"And secondly, I think we both believe they are the more likely to succeed if we can build up confidence in one another and trust one another about each other's approach, and therefore, we believe in co-operating on trade matters, on cultural matters, on quite a lot of contacts between politicians from the two sides of the divide."

RICHARDSON SACKED BY NOTTS NUM

Mr Henry Richardson, general secretary of Nottinghamshire N U M and a staunch supporter of the pit strike, was sacked yesterday by his area executiv committee, who heard a complaint of gross misconduct against him.

Two months ago he was suspended from office for distributing recruitment leaflets for the national union at a time when the expulsion of the Notts area looked imminent. He described his sacking as "outrageous."

But there was confusion about his future after the NUM national president, Mr Scargill, insisted last night that he was still a full-time official under union rules.

Other pit news—P2

EGYPTIANS TAKE OVER HARRODS

By MICHAEL BECKET City Staff

THE Egyptian Al-Frayed brothers yesterday gained control of the House of Fraser, which owns Harrods and a string of other major department stores.

In a dramatic series of share purchases they spent £123·5 million to increase their share stake to over half.

It was the latest move in the £615 million takeover launched last week by the brothers.

But acquisition of the Fraser chain of 102 shops still requires the go-ahead of Mr Norman Tebbitt, trade and industry secretary, who is to decide this week whether the deal should be examined by the Monolopies Commission.

Details—P19

SHOP SPENDING UP

By Our City Staff

Spending in the shops last month picked up after the traditional drop in January. The Trade and Industry Department estimate shoppers spent 8 per cent. more than in February last year.

Details—P19

LATE NEWS

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ISRAELIS KILL 30 REBELS

By MAIER ASHER in Jerusalem

ISRAELI troops yesterday killed more than 30 Shi'ite terrorists and demolished 15 homes in a raid on the South Lebanon village of Zararia.

The attack, using tanks and armoured troop carriers, followed the killing of 12 Israeli soldiers on Sunday by a suicide driver who drove his lorry filled with explosives into an Israeli convoy near the border crossing at Metullah.

The military authorities in Jerusalem said a terrorist leader who killed an Israeli colonel 10 days ago in South Lebanon was reported among yesterday's dead.

At Zarabaria a contingent of the Lebanese Army, which had taken positions in the Shi-ite village although asked not to interfere in the operation, opened fire on the Israelis. A clash ensued and 10 Lebanese soldiers were arrested.

The operation was said to have spread to two more villages in the area. It was the fourth armed encounter between Israeli troops and the Lebanese Army during anti-terrorists raids in South Lebanon.

The military sources said the village, less than a mile west of the present Israeli line, had become a terrorist base for the Shi-ite Amal movement since Israel left the area in February.

U N RESOLUTION

Washington warning

OUR UNITED NATIONS correspondent writes: The Security Council last night was to vote on a resolution which would condemn Israel's "inhuman practices" in South Lebanon and demand the immediate and complete withdrawal of the remaining occupation troops.

American diplomats gave a warning that the debate would not help Lebanon solve its problems and would like both Lebanon and Israel to resume withdrawal negotiations. Meanwhile, Washington said it would veto any resolution which only criticised Israeli acts.

DIXONS TV DEAL

By Our Commercial Correspondent

Dixons is to sell the Carousel television rental business to Visionhire for £28 million cash. Dixons acquired it last year as part of its £243 million takeover of Currys.

City Report—P19

Today's Weather

GENERAL SITUATION: Anticyclone over S. will decline slowly.

LONDON, S.E., CENT. S., E., S.W. ENGLAND, E. ANGLIA, MIDLANDS, CHANNEL ISLANDS: Dry, sunny periods. Wind light and variable. Max. 50F (10C).

WALES: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, becoming cloudy later with rain in places. Wind S.W., light or moderate. Max. 48F (9C).

S. NORTH SEA, STRAIT OF DOVER, ENGLISH CHANNEL (E): Wind N.E., force 4 becoming variable 1-3. Sea slight becoming smooth.

ST GEORGE'S CHANNEL: Wind variable becoming S.W. force 1-3. Sea smooth.

IRISH SEA: Wind S.W. force 1-3 later veering N.W. 5. Sea smooth becoming moderate.

OUTLOOK: Rain spreading S.E. followed by brighter weather with showers. Becoming colder.

Weather maps—P24

Prescriptions up 40p to £2 an item

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

PRESCRIPTION charges for N H S medicines are to rise by 40p to £2 an item and big increases are to be made in the cost of dental treatment and in charges for private treatment in N H S pay beds. The increases come into effect on April 1.

But Mr Fowler, Social Services Secretary, pointed out yesterday that the rise in prescription charges will affect only a quarter of the population—because children, the retired, those on supplementary benefit, and expectant and nursing mothers are all exempt from charges, and will remain so.

Nevertheless, the increases which are well ahead of the current rate of inflation, raised a storm of protests from doctors, dentists and chemists.

The British Medical Association said that higher charges would deter some patients from going to see their doctor and the Pharmaceutical Society condemned them as an "unjustifiable tax on the sick."

Dental charges are to rise by up to 10 per cent., but a new

Parliament—P10

method of charging for treatment will mean that some patients will face considerably higher charges.

In future patients will pay the full costs of routine dental treatment up to a maximum of £17—instead of £14·50 at present—but they will also pay two-fifths of any cost above that level.

The charges for specific treatments, such as crowns, inlays, bridges and dentures, will increase by 6 to 10 per cent. but Mr Fowler said the maximum charge for a single course of treatment would not rise by more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

He pointed out that almost half of all patients receive free dental treatment because they are exempt from charges. They include children, those on low incomes and expectant and nursing mothers.

£266 private beds

In the hospital service charges for private patients and overseas visitors are to rise so that they meet the full cost of all services provided.

The average increase in charges will amount to 14 per cent. although charges to some private patients will rise considerably more.

The increases will raise the cost of a private bed in top hospitals such as the National Heart and Chest or the Hospital for Sick Children to £266 a night compared with £203 at present.

Announcing the increases Mr Fowler said that more money was being spent on the health service than ever before. "We do believe that those who can afford it should make a larger contribution."

Although the prescription charge would rise to £2—contributing an extra £19 million to the drugs bill—it would still represent less than half the £4·50 cost of the average prescription.

Mr Fowler said that as a result of the changes, charges would account for only 3·2 per cent. of total health service spending. A further 11 per cent. is derived from National Insurance contributions and the bulk of the money, 86 per cent., comes from general taxation.

The maximum charge for a course of dental treatment is to rise from £110 to £115. The cost of a gold crown will rise from £59 to £65 and the charge for a dental bridge covering up to 3 teeth will rise from £47 to £50.

Private bed charges in a London postgraduate hospital will rise from £177 to £193 a night for a single room and from £114 to £125 in a non-teaching 'acute' hospital. A private bed in a psychiatric hospital will go up from £47 to £54 for a single room.

The British Medical Associ-

Continued on Back P, Col

MORTGAGE OPTIMISM AS £ GAINS

By Our Financial Correspondent

Markets yesterday scented the possibility of a modest cut in bank base rates within the next 10 days of perhaps enough to save mortgage rates from rising.

Sterling gained almost 2 cents, to close at $1·0880 in London, and the $ fell $5\frac{1}{2}$ pfennigs against the mark to just under 3·34 marks.

Interest rates in the London money market also fell, with the three-month rate in the inter bank market closing about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. down on the day at $13\frac{5}{8}$ per cent. Government stock rose. But the chances of a cut in base rates before the Budget are rated at little less than even.

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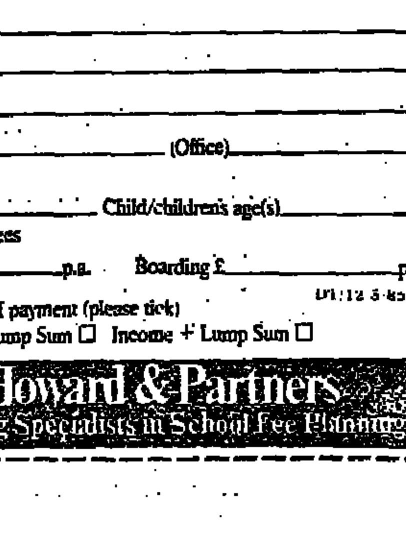

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MINERS SEEKING PAY-OFFS ARE TOLD TO WAIT

By ROLAND CRIBBEN Business Correspondent

MINERS wanting to leave the coal industry and take advantage of the generous compensation terms have been told to wait because they are needed to help in the post-strike recovery.

More than 20,000 made inquiries about taking voluntary redundancy during the strike. They equalled the number of redundancies the Coal Board was seeking in the programme which triggered the strike.

"There are more urgent matters at present. Our main priority is to get the pits back into operation and build up output," a Coal Board official said yesterday.

The board is expecting a rush of formal applications from strikers and non-strikers once it completes the recovery programme and produces a new plan for a slimmer industry, but has no plans to encourage miners to seek early departure.

More than £36,000

There could be problems in the way length of service is treated in assessing compensation, particularly between striking miners and those who worked during the dispute.

Under the compensation scheme a miner seeking redundancy at the age of 49 could qualify for a lump sum of more than £36,000.

The board is pushing ahead with plans for a top-level management reorganisation and a re-assessment of coal demand. The changes, including promotion for top managers who were deemed to have performed well during the strike, are expected to be announced shortly.

Promotions ahead

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman, is creating a new tier of senior area directors to push through a series of changes that will give greater autonomy to the 12 areas and reduce the size of the headquarters in London.

Managers earmarked for promotion include Mr Michael Eaton, the North Yorkshire area director brought to London to take over Mr MacGregor's communications role. He is set to take over from Mr Merrick Spanton as personnel board member.

Mr John Northard, Western area director, is being tipped to become director of operations and Mr Ken Moses, North Derbyshire head, director of planning.

MacGREGOR PLEADS FOR HARMONY

By Our Industrial Staff

MR MacGREGOR, Coal Board chairman, wrote to all miners yesterday calling for harmony and co-operation in swiftly restoring production.

The letter, posted to miners' homes, also stated that until there was an end to the overtime ban, miners would not receive any pay rises.

Mr MacGregor said in the letter: "When normal working has been restored, management will discuss and settle important isues with your representatives, including pay now, and for the future.

"Your colliery manager's first priority is the restoration of safe working. I am asking for your personal co-operation in ensuring the safety of your fellow workers."

He said the strike was not of management's choosing or making.

"Now that it is over, every effort must be made to restore harmony within the industry, so we can all resume our respective responsibilities

MINE REDUNDANCIES

Voluntary redundancy has been taken by 235 miners so far at Polkemmet Colliery, Whitburn, West Lothian, where investigations are going on to decide whether the pit can be re-opened after extensive flooding.

VAT PROTEST

Petitions signed by 830,000 people protesting against the threat of VAT on books in the Budget were delivered to Downing Street yesterday. The signatures were collected in libraries, bookshops, universities and community centres.

Non-strikers besieged at Kent pit

By STEPHEN WARD
Industrial Staff

WORKING miners had to lock themselves in a room after threats of violence from returning strikers at Betteshanger, Kent's largest pit, yesterday.

The Kent area of the NUM refused to return to work last week, and held out for an amnesty for 38 men dismissed during the strike.

But they voted overwhelmingly at the weekend to go back and at two of the three pits, Tilmanstone and Snowdown, there was an orderly return.

However at Betteshanger many of the 90 miners who have been working during the strike had to face abuse, spitting and threats from 600 returning strikers.

The men locked themselves in a lamp room at the pithead, while ex-strikers banged on the door and walls.

Mrs Irene McGibbon, the wife of Mr Robert McGibbon, one of the trapped miners, said her husband had telephoned her from inside to ask for help.

Shouts and screams

She said: "Striking miners, and their wives as well, were shouting and screaming and running all over the pit top."

The situation was defused when the returning strikers decided not to work, because the pit managers had refused to allow them to be accompanied by some of their dismissed former colleagues.

Under custom and practice in the coal industry, the NUM is allowed to nominate members to inspect safety. However the members nominated at Betteshanger no longer work for the coal board.

NEWSPAPERS 'NOT OUT TO BREAK UNIONS'

A call to the leaders of print and journalists' unions to share in the future being created through new technology was made yesterday by the President of the Newspaper Society, the association of regional and local newspaper publishers.

Mr Tim Morris said at the society's newspaper sales conference in Blackpool, that his message to the unions was: "We want you with us, not against us." The industry was not out to break the unions.

But if unions would not join in reshaping the future, they had to be prepared to accept the consequences. "Without new technoldgy, some of us will not survive," said Mr Morris.

Miners trooping back to work at Betteshanger Colliery, Kent, yesterday.

Death threats force pitman to stay at home

By COLIN RANDALL

A MINER who was denounced as a "super scab" for strike-breaking stayed at home yesterday because of threats from men at Cwm Colliery, Beddau, near Pontypridd, South Wales.

Mr Gordon Fjaelberg, 36, an underground repairer, said the atmosphere at the pit after the end of the strike was "murderous."

On one occasion, he said, a deputy manager had to disperse an angry group of about 50 miners who were "looking almost like a lynch mob."

Later in the week Mr Fjaelberg, who led five men back to work during the strike, faced abuse and provocation while showering.

His wife, Jane, 28, was active in the South Wales wives' back-to-work movement. The couple say they have been the target of death threats and intimidation at home since the end of the strike.

The Coal Board in South Wales said: "In general, the message seems to have got across that our people must get on with the task and forget the past. But anyone who does use violence or intimidation will be instanly dismissed and anyone who refuses to work with another employee or equipment will be sent home without pay."

Meanwhile, two women and a 15-year-old girl have joined nine other people facing court proceedings arising from last week's attack on Mrs Joy Watson's car outside the Phurnacite smokeless fuel plant near Aberdare.

A stone was hurled through a side window after Mrs Watson had driven her husband, Paul, to start his shift. He was the only union member at the plant who broke the strike.

Only one of the 12 who have now been reported for alleged criminal offences is an adult male.

MARCHERS HALTED AT PIT GATE

By A. J. McILROY
in Edinburgh

SCOTTISH miners marching back to work behind a pipe band were turned away at the gates of Comrie colliery, Fife, by management officials yesterday.

Mr Bob Young, leader of ComrieNational Union of Mineworkers branch, said: "The management told us they would not allow us to march into the pit. They insisted that each man go individually through a side gate.

"It was an amazing situation and one which we can not understand. I know that there were 25 sacked miners in the procession, including myself, but we had no intention of going in with the procession. We told the management that but it made no difference.

"We shall return to work tomorrow, none of the sacked men among us, and we can only hope that the Coal Board will show a more reasonable attitude to our wishes to make a dignified return to work."

'Harsh treatment'

Comrie was one of the five militant Fife collieries returning to work yesterday and effectively ending resistance by the union branches in Scotland.

The union in Scotland has made an official protest to Mr Albert Wheeler, Coal Board area director, about what the union describes as the "harsh treatment" of the return to work.

The union said that the biggest insult has happened at the Bilston Glen Colliery, near Edinburgh, where the Coal Board has turned the former union strike headquarters into kennels for guard dogs.

A Coal Board spokesman said he could not comment on the question of accommodation for guard dogs or on other allegations that miners were being forced to work shifts as a deliberate ploy to neutralise the overtime ban.

SEQUESTRATION RULING TODAY

By Our Legal Correspondent

A High Court judge will rule today on an application by the South Wales miners' union to end the sequestration of its assets, imposed last year after it had failed to pay a £50,000 fine for contempt of court.

Although the union has offered no apology to the court or given any undertaking to comply with court orders in future, it claims its contempt has been purged by payment of the fine from nearly £700,000 of the union's assets seized by the sequestrators.

NUM's big problem now is the deep pit of debt

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff

THE National Union of Mineworkers has built up a multi-million-pound debt to other unions in the course of its year-long strike that is likely to make it a relative pauper and a long-term drain on the labour movement's resources.

That is what Mr Scargill signified when he disclosed at the weekend that he regarded his union as broke.

A large part of the NUM's capital, once an estimated £8 million-£9 million, has either been dissipated in its legal and industrial battles or is now mortgaged to other unions.

With its funds sequestrated and its cash flow in the hands of the High Court receiver, the vast bulk of its £120,000-a-week administrative costs are still being met from interest-free or low-interest loans voted on the basis of fraternal goodwill.

But it is now clear that, even when its funds are restored and its subscription income is fully resumed, the union is going to find it hard to stay in the black.

Membership down

Even when its subscription income begins again as the miners return to work, the product will be smaller in both actual and real terms than when the strike began last March.

The union's membership has dwindled by about 9,000 during the dispute, nearly 6,000 of these through voluntary redundancies, and others through retirement, ill-health, switching jobs or dismissal.

Future pit closures will reduce the remaining membership figure of about 185,000 still further in a relatively short space of time.

The subscription level itself, currently 70p a week and producing about £128,000 a week, is tied to miners' pay, which has remained static since 1982.

The Coal Board says it will not negotiate the 1983 and 1984 rises until the union calls off its overtime ban, which is locked into the argument about amnesties for the sacked strikers.

In the meantime the NUM's area finance officers say that the subscription income is well below what they consider to be a viable figure, let alone one that will enable the union to repay its loan debt and rebuild its reserves.

The loans have been vital to enable the union to continue functioning during the strike, particularly since the sequestraters were appointed. A large part has gone to pay salaries at its Sheffield headquarters and at area offices in the coalfields.

While union officials drew only expenses during the stoppage, most of the 40-strong staff in Sheffield and those in area offices have continued to be paid on the basis that they are employees and as such not directly involved in the confrontation with the Coal Board.

The exception has been in the South Wales area office where a majority of the 20 staff—those who were not sole wage earners in their families—agreed to forgo their pay after the area's funds had been separately sequestrated.

Evans promise

The mechanics of keeping the NUM's Sheffield headquarters operational when all bank accounts and ready cash had been seized by the court-appointed officials has been the subject of a conspiracy of silence between TUC leaders.

Mr Moss Evans, general secretary of the transport workers, conceded last week that his union had handed over "several millions" in grant aid to the miners, quite apart from its members' contributions to the hardship fund.

The flow would continue as long as it was necessary to keep the NUM's fabric from falling apart, he pledged.

Much of the cash provided in that way has gone not to the NUM's central organisation but directly to its area offices.

ROLLS IN £45m QANTAS ORDER

By Our Air Correspondent

Rolls-Royce has received an engine order worth £45 million from Qantas, the Australian flag carrier, to power the airline's fourth Boeing 747-300 due for delivery in March next year.

The upgraded RB211-524D4 engines to be fitted to the latest extended upper deck version of the Boeing jumbo jet use less fuel than the engines currently in use, and are expected to save Qantas at least £275,000 a year in fuel consumption on each aircraft.

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BLACK POSSE'S VICE REIGN ENDS IN JAIL

By IAN HENRY Old Bailey Correspondent

THE leaders of a powerful gang of vice barons known as the "Black Posse" were jailed at the Old Bailey yesterday. The gang forced scores of prostitutes throughout the country to work for them under threats of torture, and subjected them to sexual abuse, said Mr TIMOTHY CASSEL, prosecuting.

The gang's profits were said to run into millions of pounds. They drove expensive cars, went on luxury foreign holidays, dressed in expensive clothes, and gambled away huge sums in cash.

One victim told police she earned £60,000 on the streets over four years and handed all of it to the gang bosses. Others were earning £500 a night.

The gang's base was in the West Midlands, but Chief Supt John Marsden said after the hearing that they had influence in almost every vice area in the country.

Kidnap and rape

DONALD "THE GENERAL" HARRIS, 27, described by police as Britain's leading pimp, of Buchan Road, Peckham, was jailed for 6½ years.

BYRON "MALTA" ROSE, 25, of Aston House, Wandsworth Road, Lambeth, was jailed for 2½ years.

CARL "PIPEY" WILSON, 28, of Hurstbourne Crescent, Wolverhampton, was jailed for seven years and ROBERT "GOLDTOOTH" SOLOMON, 23, of Daynor House, Quex Road, Kilburn, was jailed for five years.

All were convicted of living off immoral earnings. Harris was also convicted of kidnapping and assault. Rose of assault, Wilson of rape and Solomon of wounding.

A series of prostitutes told the court that they lived a life of terror after falling into the gang's clutches.

They told of being subjected to violence and sexual abuse. Girls said that if they escaped from the gang and were recaptured they were taken to a "torture den" in Alder House, Inckerman Street, Wolverhampton.

One girl was given alternate hot and cold baths and another was threatened with electrocution.

Special squad

After police had received scores of pleas for help from terrified victims it was decided to form a special squad to catch the ringleaders.

Six detectives trailed the suspects as they travelled up and down the M1 between the red light districts of London and the Midlands.

After months of keeping observation in Paddington, Kings Cross, Wolverhampton and Nottingham, the squad discovered that a Liverpool pimp had been responsible for terrorising the girls.

Chief Supt Marsden said the ringleaders had been prosecuted and others had been questioned although not prosecuted.

The officers in the special squad, nicknamed the "White Posse," were staggered at the extent of the racket they had uncovered. They believe their success has resulted in a major reduction in this type of crime.

Miss Melisa Drummond in York yesterday.

5ft 1in mini avenger fined for attack

By STANLEY GOLDSMITH

A 5ft 1in woman motorist who jumped out of her Mini and clipped a 5ft 10in youth round the ear when she thought he was taunting a pensioner was fined £25 yesterday.

MELISSA DRUMMOND, 21, told York magistrates that she saw the 14-year-old boy kick the old man's stick out of his hand, and then walk away laughing with three friends.

"The old man was shaken up and frightened because there was a gang of them. I hit the boy because if he had got away with it he would have done it again," she said.

"I don't like people thinking they are big by bullying at old men."

The youth, who suffered two small cuts when she also pushed him into a hedge, claimed he tripped over the stick accidentally.

And Mrs SANDRA KEEN, prosecuting, said no elderly man had complained to police.

Miss Drummond, a machinist, of Gladstone Street, York, admitted assault.

GP, 82, 'IN COCONUT DRUG RING'

A DRUGS plot was uncovered when Customs men stopped three Nigerians pushing a trolley loaded with 57 coconuts through the green "nothing to declare" channel at Heathrow, a jury was told yesterday.

Inside the nuts were 72 lb of cannabis, said Mr GERARD BOYD, prosecuting, at Aylesbury Crown Court.

In the address book of one of the trio, JIMMY AJAI, 29, was the name of an 82-year-old retired Nigerian doctor, JACOB AKINYELE, of Becklow Road, Shepherd's Bush.

Mr Boyd said Ajai claimed that the drug was "supposed to be sold to Dr Jacob," and set up a meeting with Akinyele at Heathrow's Penta Hotel.

He said Ajai handed Akinyele the contents of one of the coconuts, and Akinyele gave him £900. The meeting was bugged by Customs men, who arrested the doctor as he left.

Akinyelo, and Ajai, a Lagos trader, both deny smuggling on March 5 last year. ALABI AKINOBI, 39, and SAMUEL OLUNYI, 35, from Lagos, the other men arrested at Heathrow, admit the offence.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

Heroin pusher's 1,460 visitors

A YOUNG woman who admitted supplying heroin from her flat had 1,460 visitors in 70 days, Mr RODERICK BENYER, prosecuting, said at Bristol Crown Court yesterday.

Drug Squad detectives had watched 22-year-old ANTHONY AUSTIN'S flat in Oakfield Road, Clifton, Bristol and when they raided it they found scales, weights and traces of heroin.

She was jailed for two years after admitting two charges

Doctors 'cheating NHS out of fees'

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

A GOVERNMENT crackdown on hospital consultants who pocket private patients' fees without repaying the National Health Service for the use of its staff or equipment was announced by Mr Clarke, Health Minister, yesterday.

His statement followed the release of an analysis of auditors' reports on 17 health authorities by Mr Michael Meacher, Shadow Social Services Secretary.

Mr Clarke said it was clear that some health authorities had failed to maintain proper control over the collection of income from private patients and failings had to be put right.

"The authorities concerned will be chased by our department until we are completely satisfied that shortcomings have been made good," he said.

Mr Meacher claims that hospital consultants are cheating the health service out of thousands of pounds by widespread fiddles involving patients treated privately in NHS hospitals.

Instant dismissal

He said: "In any other walk of life theft on this scale would have resulted in instant dismissal and criminal proceedings, possibly involving years in prison."

He said abuses had been found at hospitals in Sheffield, Darlington, Shropshire, South Tees, Nottingham and Oxfordshire.

"Failure to charge private hospitals for services and equipment was discovered in Nottingham and Oxfordshire health authorities," he said.

A spokesman for the British Medical Association said they would be extremely surprised if there was widespread abuse

BABY LOUISE CALLED 'IT' BY PARENTS

By HEATHER MILLS

BOTH the father and mother of LOUISE BROWN, a Down's Syndrome baby, referred to their child as "it" in the police station after they reported her missing, it was claimed at the Old Bailey yesterday.

WPC JULIE THOMPSON, who sat with the baby's mother, SUSAN PULLEN, for a two-hour period, said: "She kept calling her baby 'it' and saying 'it' would need a feed." She added the mother "was not crying but tried to force herself to cry."

In interviews with police following the disappearance of 15-day-old Louise, the child's father, PAUL BROWN, 30, was also said to have called the child 'it.'

The prosecution claim that Paul Brown murdered his daughter after having too much to drink.

Brown denies murder, and with his common law wife, Pullen, both of Tierney Road, Streatham, his brother Ian and his wife, Brenda, denies conspiring to pervert the course of justice by making false statements to conceal the death.

Ian Brown, of Streatham Common North, denies helping his brother hide Louise's body, which has never been found.

The trial was adjourned until today.

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2,500	94.96	3,418.56	68.48	4,108.80		
3,000	113.95	4,102.20	82.18	4,930.80		
4,000	151.94	5,469.84	109.57	6,574.20	81.59	9,790.80
5,000	189.92	6,837.12	136.96	8,217.60	101.99	12,238.80
10,000	379.84	13,674.24	273.92	16,435.20	203.98	24,477.60
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LOANPLAN

Elton John's watch 'in man's pyjamas'

THE story of how a £6,000 diamond-studded Cartier watch was stolen from ELTON JOHN and turned up in the elasticated pyjama bottoms of a man in Croydon was related to an Old Bailey jury yesterday.

Elton John

And the pop-star chairman of Watford football club was questioned about his friendship with a blond bi-sexual man who was staying with him when the watch vanished.

It was missing for three months until police raided the home of CORNELIUS CULWICK, said Mr NICHOLAS FREEMAN, prosecuting.

They told Culwick—still in his nightclothes — to drop his pyjama trousers, and found the watch hidden in one of the elasticated ankles.

Outside Croydon magistrates' court two days later, Mr Freeman claimed, Culwick asked a policeman if they had traced its owner, adding: "You'll laugh at the end of this. You might get a trip to Florida out of it.

"I'll give you a clue—the Pinball Wizard—now work it out."

Elton John appeared in the musical "Tommy" about a blind pinball wizard.

Culwick, of Gloucester Road, Croydon, denies stealing or handling the gold watch.

In his bathrobe

Elton John, soberly dressed in a grey three-piece suit and black tie, but wearing blue-framed tinted spectacles, said he was at his Windsor home with three friends, including the 24-year-old bi-sexual TOMMY WILLIAMS, when the watch disappeared in March, 1985.

"I changed into my bathrobe in my bedroom and took off the watch and a sapphire ring.

"At 1 a.m. my friends came to my suite and we went to the video room and watched videos until about 4 a.m. I fell asleep [illegible] on the sofa until 9.30 a.m."

He agreed with Mr ANTHONY PADMAN, defending, that he knew Tommy Williams was bi-sexual when they met 18 months earlier.

"He is a good friend," said the singer, who was married a year ago.

He last heard from Williams two months ago in Los Angeles. The hearing was adjourned until today.

THUG WHO SHOVED REF BOUND OVER

DONALD BARRETT, a soccer hooligan who pushed the referee and halted Saturday's Second Division match between Crystal Palace and Wolves, was bound over in the sum of £100 to keep the peace by Croydon magistrates yesterday.

Four days earlier John Leftley was bound over in the sum of £200 after he ran on to the pitch and sparked a riot during Chelsea's game with Sunderland. A court official said later that magistrates had no powers to impose greater punishment.

Barrett's outburst came minutes after Mr David Axcell, the referee, had refused Crystal Palace a penalty. After his arrest he told police: "I paid £3·50 to watch that. What do you expect me to do? He should have given that penalty."

Barrett, of Buckingham Avenue, Norbury, was bound over for a year.

TAPE-CHANGE MADE DAUGHTER OF DUKE CRASH

The Duke of Rutland's daughter who was fined 18 months ago for kissing a man as she drove along the fast lane of the M6, was fined £100 yesterday for causing a head-on crash on the A1.

Magistrates at Grantham were told that 22-year-old Lady Teresa Manners was leaning over to put a new tape in her cassette player when her car crossed the central reservation and hit another, injuring her, and a child in the other vehicle.

Lady Teresa, an art student, of Belvoir Castle, near Grantham, admitted driving without due care.

SEAMEN END SIT-IN AFTER FIVE MONTHS

Six Yugoslav seamen, who have occupied their ship at Tilbury for five months in protest at not being paid, ended their "sit-in" yesterday.

The men, who claim they are owed £140,000 back pay, complied with a High Court order, avoiding imprisonment for contempt, by leaving the Cyprus-registered Freightline One.

Three of the crew left the ship over the weekend and the others handed the ship over to the Admiralty Marshal, who will arrange for it to be sold today. The proceeds will be used to pay creditors owed money by the ship's Cypriot owners.

LIFE FOR LSD MAN WHO KILLED FRIEND

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, Q.C. called for tougher sentences for drug dealers yesterday after jailing for life at the Old Bailey a man who shot dead his friend after taking L.S.D.

Sir James said: "This case underlines the justification for deterrent sentences on those who traffic in this disgusting commodity." Joseph White, 21, gardener, of Longley Road, Farnham, Surrey, had pleaded guilty to murdering Raymond Kingshot, 30, of Shepherds Way, Tilford, Surrey.

ARMY OFFICER FAKED DEGREE

A court martial sentence on an Army officer who faked his academic qualifications to gain seniority has been upheld.

Lt Timothy Burgess, 27, of the Royal Tank Regt stationed at Bovington, Dorset, received extra pay after claiming he had a second-class B A honours degree. A court martial at Bulford, near Salisbury, severely reprimanded him and deprived him of two years' seniority.

£14,000 GEMS RAID

Four men wearing ski masks stole gold rings and chains valued at £14,000 from a jeweller's shop in the Market Place, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, yester-

FIRST AID TALLY

Just over 39,000 casualties were treated in London last year by St John Ambulance volunteers, who worked a total of 429,501 hours.

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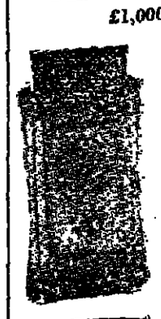

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WE'LL GIVE HALF FAMINE CRISIS AID, U.S. PLEDGES

By THOMAS NETTER in Geneva

VICE-PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH yesterday pledged to a United Nations conference that the United States was again ready to provide half the emergency food aid needed for 30 million African famine victims.

Mr Bush, who recently visited Northern Africa, said he came to the meeting as "one who has stood on the parched earth of Africa and seen the results of ecological disaster and human failure."

Absent from the three-day conference was South Africa. Conference officials refused to say if the apartheid State had been shunned.

Mr Bush said American food and drought aid during 1985 would total more than $1 billion (£925 million), in addition to previously agreed economic assistance worth $788 million (£728 million).

"As we did last year, the United States is again prepared to meet 50 per cent. of the emergency food need, which we estimate to be about three million tons," he said.

Conference officers said emergency aid worth $1·5 billion (£1·3 billion) was needed this year to ease the famine afflicting some 30 million Africans in 20 countries. The amount pledged by Mr Bush was said to be part of this figure which the UN is now seeking.

Mr Bush criticised Ethiopia, one of the hardest-hit countries and a Marxist State, for allowing politics to effect its drought-relief efforts.

Ethiopia has been accused by political opponents of diverting aid from famine-stricken people to its army which is fighting a guerrilla movement in the North, where the worst-affected provinces are located.

Mr Bush stressed, however, that Africa must move into modern times to avoid further tragedy.

"I have finished my journey to Africa. Africa's journey is just beginning," he said. "If the land of the Sahel is not to follow the example of America's dust bowl, Africa's must travel a long distance in agricultural policy, a long distance in developing the skills of its farmers and a long distance in develop ,ffi'm distance in applying new techniques."

Senor Javier Perez de Cuellar, U.N. Secretary-General, who called the emrgency conference of more than 100 nations, said: "Thousands have already perished. Others are slowly dying, and uncounted more are sick, ravaged by disease born of a slow starvation."

The meeting has provided a forum for emotional statements about the need to tackle drought, but some Western observers had "no high hopes" that a solution to the drought would be found, beyond immediate pledges of aid.

£60m British aid

Mr Timothy Raison, Britain's Development Minister, told the conference that Britain would provide £60 million in emergency aid to Africa in the next financial year. Britain plans to spend another £125 million on longer-term development in the 20 worst affected countries.

Midge Ure, of the Rock group Ultravox, visiting Sendafa transit camp, north of Addis Ababa, where he delivered famine relief supplies bought with money raised by the Band Aid record, "Don't They Knew It's Christmas?"

7 BOMBS IN LISBON

By KENNETH POTTINGER in Lisbon

SEVEN powerful bombs placed by Left-wing Portuguese extremists caused considerable damage to foreign economic targets in Lisbon and the eastern farming centre of Evora early yesterday, police said.

No-one was injured by the blasts.

An urban guerrilla group, the Popular Forces of April 25, said in a telephone call to a local radio station that it had set the bombs in protest at recent government legislation aimed at opening banking and insurance to private enterprise.

Jopling in brush with W. Germans over grain

By GODFREY BROWN
Agriculture Correspondent in Brussels

A MAJOR initiative to arrest and reverse the growth of the Common Market grain mountain came under severe attack in Brussels last night, and put Britain and West Germany on collision course.

The European Commission is proposing to cut the guaranteed prices for cereals by 3·6 per cent., following last year's record 146 million ton EEC grain harvest, or 30 million tons more than is consumed in the Community.

But Herr Gnaz Keichle, the West German Agriculture Minister, served notice on his colleagues from the rest of the Ten that he did not intend to go home from this year's EEC farm price fixing meeting with any reduction in prices for West German farmers, especially for cereals.

Mr Jobling, however, argued strongly that the planned cereal price cut was not enough. A major price cut was called for, he declared.

Jopling firm

Under the terms of an agreement already reached by Common Market farm ministers, guaranteed cereal prices are linked to output. Last year's bumper EEC crop should have triggered an eight per cent. price cut.

But the agreement also imposed a limit on the cereal price cut of five per cent., so by proposing only a 3·6 per cent. cut the Commission has already softened the blow for European grain growers.

Mr Jopling, however, insisted that the full five per cent. cut in the "common" price level should be applied. "We should give a clear signal to producers by agreeing that for three years there should be no increase in the norm price," he declared.

He pointed out that cereal growers' returns per acre in real (inflation-adjusted) terms had increased significantly over the past few years as a result of productivity increases. It meant the Community's pricing policy had been a positive incentive to grow more.

Crops as fuel

Herr Kiechle, however, maintained that West German farmers' incomes were relatively the worst in Europe, and they could not accept price cuts. But there was scant sympathy or support for the Bonn viewpoint.

M. Michel Rocard, the French farm minister, suggested they should investigate alternative uses for surplus farm crops.

For examplo, rather than pay subsidies to export surplus cereals, they could subsidise their use internally for new purposes such as fuel.

He said the French government was prepared to contribute financially towards research into these possibilities.

M. Rocard also indicated that he saw the Commission's farm price proposals as "realistic."

Mr Jopling, too, gave them a "qualified welcome." Despite reservations on some aspects, he supported the basic thrust underlying the proposals.

Ceiling set

A major constraint, however, on the farm ministers' would-be generosity to the eight million EEC farmers is the sheer cost of farm support.

This harsh reality intruded yesterday when EEC finance ministers also meeting in Brussels set a £3¼15 billion ceiling, some £400 million less than originally proposed, on a five-year package, to modernise European agriculture.

Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, pointed out that this was the first occasion on which Finance Ministers had been successful in setting financial limits for agriculture under the new system of budgetary discipline.

Now the financial ceiling had been set, it was for the Farm Ministers to agree an overall "structure" package which in Britain would direct grants towards conserving environmentally sensitive areas.

KOHL HOPE OF TALKS WITH HONECKER

By Our Staff Correspondent in Bonn

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany will leave today for President Chernenko's funeral.

Dr Kohl, who attended President Andropov's funeral, will again be hoping to meet East bloc leaders, including Herr Honecker, the East German Communist chief, who abruptly called off a maiden visit to West Germany last September because of Kremlin disapproval.

Mr Chernenko's death brought to a suden end a planned week-long visit to West Germany by a delegation of the Supreme Soviet. Having arrived in Hamburg on Sunday, the delegation hurriedly returned home yesterday.

Club is now Heavenly Smells hotel

By HUGH DAVIES in Shanghai

A COMMUNIST cadre pointed to his badge, held his hands up in dismay in a Shanghai hotel and announced: "This building is no longer open to the outside world."

To his obvious alarm foreign correspondents had been prowling around the lobby of what was once the legendary Shanghai Club.

Number Three, the Bund, was famed throughout the waterfront prior to Mao's 1949 takeover as a haunt of businessmen anxious for a chat in the bar, a tiffin and then a pleasant doze in the sacrosanct smoking room.

A British institution, it granted visiting privileges to members of the Bengal, Singapore and Hongkong clubs, provided they dropped in no more than three times a year.

The celebrated 110-foot bar was reputed to be the longest in the world. Sadly time and the Communists have wrought changes.

Doss house

The bar has now been cut into three sections and while seven chandeliers still hang from the ceiling, red plastic collapsible chairs and glass-topped tables are set out in neat rows.

The bar has become a cafe, the Hall of Heavenly Smells, and the club itself is now called the East Wind Hotel. But as far as we could gather it is a doss house with only Chinese allowed to rent rooms.

The elegant high-columned lobby with its series of curving balconies still stands, slightly the worse for wear with dust everywhere. Waiters are slumped in chairs indulging in an early afternoon nap.

The quarter circle panelled lift in the stairwell, constructed by Smith Major and Stevens of Northampton functions smoothly although the woman attendant refused to allow us a ride.

"Foreigners must leave the lift at once," she ordered.

Hallowed premises

The late Richard Hughes, an old China hand, wrote of being astounded to discover in 1956 on inspecting the hallowed premises that the smoking room had become a communal overnight dormitory with rolled mattresses and dangling patched underwear and dirty towels.

Sir Victor Sassoon, he wagered, would have "thrown himself under a rickshaw."

He might also have been slightly distraught to see how the lobby has been rearranged today.

The stairs are now littered with beer crates and the hall itself has been turned into a garish looking shop where assistants peddle cheap radios, chocolate biscuits, toothpaste and leather boots.

U.S. door ajar for team from Middle East

By FRANK TAYLOR in Washington

AMERICAN officials said yesterday that they would be willing to meet a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to discuss the Middle East, but emphasised that the Arab side could not include representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Speaking as Mr Mubarak, Egyptian President, held talks with senior government figures, the officials said that, until the PLO gave explicit acceptance of Israel's right to exist, there could be no discussions with its members.

Prefer to wait

Mr Mudarak was expected to press for a new Washington initiative when he met Mr Shultz, Secretary of State, later in the day. He is due to have lunch with President Reagan at the White House today.

Mr Mubarak's aim is to persuade the United States to take an active role again in Middle East diplomacy, and that the first step should be to receive a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

The Americans would prefer to wait until the Arabs have begun direct negotiations with Israel before stepping in.

But it appears that, if King Husseign of Jordan took a joint delegation to Washington, he would not be turned away, provided it was absolutely clear the Palestinians in the team were not connected with the PLO.

One American official conceded the Arabs had been more diplomatically active in the past four or five months than at any time since 1983.

But it was still "not clear" how far matters had gone towards direct contact with Israel.

Mr Mubarak is also seeking an additional $350 million (£794 million) in American aid this year. President Reagan has earmarked about $2·1 billion (£1·9 billion) in economic and military assistance but is opposed to any increase because of his own budget problems.

4 EXECUTED AS BRITONS VISIT SHANGHAI

By Our Staff Correspondent in Hongkong

A delegation of 10 prominent British industrialists, led by Lord Young, Minister without portfolio, visited Shanghai the day four people were executed in the port, it emerged yesterday in Hongkong.

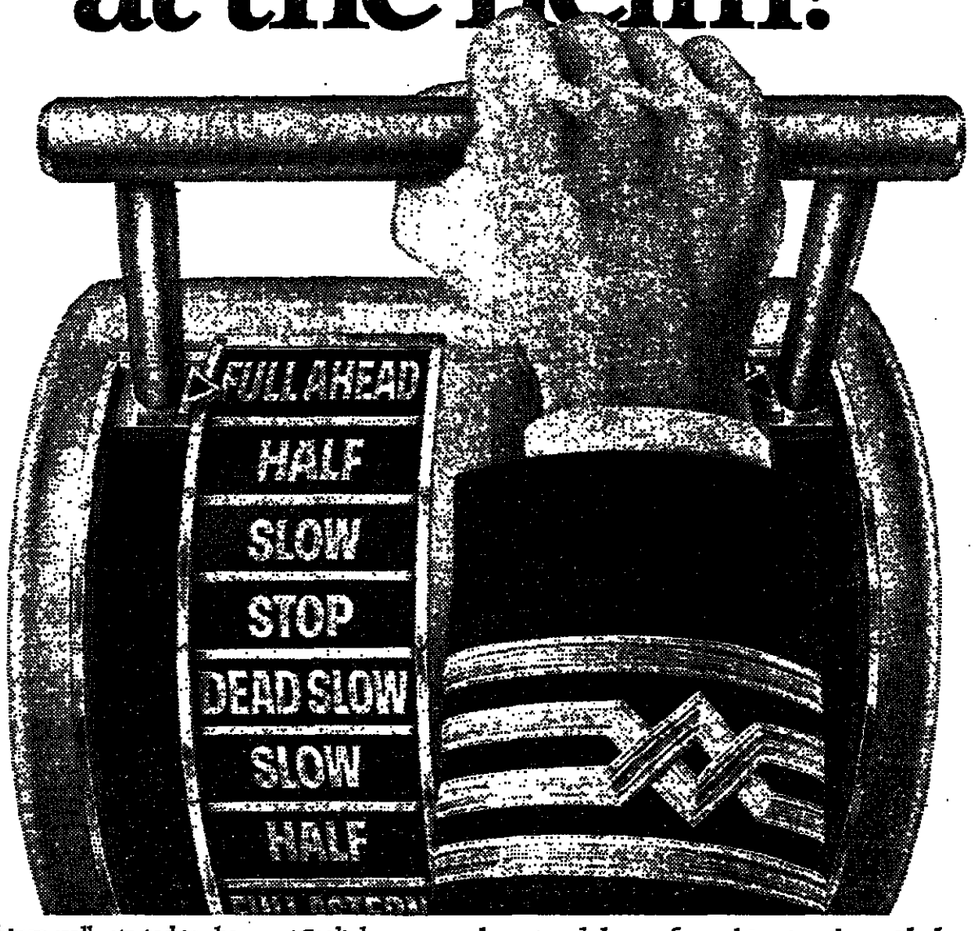
While senior officials of the Shanghai government were shaking hands with the trade team at the municipal airport on Thursday, condemned men were being taken in lorries to a patch of ground on the outskirts of the city.

Reports from Shanghai said two men accused of murder, together with an alleged rapist and a "hooligan" were put on trial that morning in the local sports stadium. All were taken out and shot in the back of the head.

40 DIE IN CLASHES

At least 40 people were killed in clashes between Philippine government forces and Communist rebels over the past three days, the official Philippines news agency said yesterday.—UPI.

What's happening to Sealink now there are private owners at the helm?



In July 1984, things really started to change at Sealink.

It was bought by a company called Sea Containers, and Sealink became private property. But this was only the beginning of the changes. Sea Containers instituted the biggest and most ambitious improvement programme ever seen in the car ferry business, and already it is bearing fruit.

You can see Sealink British Ferries' new blue, white and gold livery crossing in style on fifteen of our routes. And on board ship, changes have been made.

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They are all under the guidance of Michael Aiken, who was previously the M.D. of Trumans Ltd. He will oversee the design, layout and decor of our ships, together with the staff and the operation of all on-board facilities.

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BREAKTHROUGH FOR FRONT IN FRANCE

By MICHAEL FIELD in Paris

THE extreme Rigt-wing National Front, with scores as high as 30 per cent. of the vote in a district of Marseilles and from 20 to 25 per cent. in Toulon, Nice and other cities on the Mediterranean, as made a spectacular break-through in French local government elections.

The Front's national total of 8·5 per cent. is lower than the nearly 11 per cent. it won in the European election last June. But its leader, M. Jean-Marie Le Pen, said the Front's score was a big success since it had had no previous experience of cantonal elections.

With its strongly racist, chauvinistic campaigning style, the Front has either won immediate support or roused hackles.

But leaders of the Socialist, Neo-Gaullist and Giscardian parties weer forced to debate the result with M. Le Pen, once a pariah on television on Sunday night, showing various dedistaste. The Communists refused all contact with the leader of this "Fascist-leaning" movement.

The National Front has not, however, swept all before it. The conventional Right-wing scored 49·05 per cent. on its own; the Neo-Gaullist Rassemblement contributing 16·87 per cent., the Giscardian Union for French Democracy 19·28 per cent, and "Divers opposition," 12·9 per cent.

The relative strength of the parliamentary Right-wing parties is hard to assess because they pooled forces in an unusual display of unity, getting out of each other's way where there was any danger of weakening the Opposition's chances.

With the National Front, the Right scored 57·35 per cent, against the Left's 41·04 per cent.

This is near to rock-bottom for the contemporary Left in France and observers are inclined to think a slight recovery detected by some Socialists could occur between now and the general elections in a year's time.

The Socialist party's "honourable" score of 23·01 per cent. is seen as a "quiver" of recovery by some of its leading spokesmen. The Communist party at 12·07 per cent. is about 10 points down on its performance in the previous cantonal poll of 1979, the most accurate basis for comparison.

Computer counts

Observers predicted yesterday that, after next Sunday's second round of "run-offs," the Opposition was likely to have won control of 10 of the 96 departments held by the Left.

Figures so far available on the results are not official but are statistics obtained from computerised counts by various organisations.

According to figures in Le Monde yesterday, 783 of the 1,954 vacancies on the departmental councils were filled last Sunday, 664 went to, or were held on to by, the Opposition, 118 went or stayed Left and a solitary seat, in the Dordogne, went to an Independent candidate.

Members of the government had a mixed day. M. Joseph Franceschi, Junior Minister for Old Pensioners, and M. Roland Carraz, Junior Minister for Technical Education, won their seats in the Val de Marne and the Cote d'Or.

But eight full cabinet ministers, including M. Pierre Beregavoy (economy), Mme Edith Cresson (Industry) and M. Louis Nexandeau posts and telecommunications), face run-offs.

Editorial Comment—P16

Gandhi frees eight Sikh leaders

By BALRAM TANDON in New Delhi

TWO leaders of the Sikhs' main political party, the Akali Dal, were released yesterday on the orders of Mr Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister.

Freed with six others, were Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the party, and Jagdev Singh Talwandi who heads a hardline faction. They are two of the three "saints" who lead the movement in the troubled Punjab.

Gurcharan Singh Tohra, president of the powerful Shrimoni Gurudwara Prabhandhak, or Holy Temple managing committee, remains in prison under the National Security Act.

The eight men were arrested shortly after troops stormed the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar last June. Mr S. B. Chavan, the Interior Minister, said the release order was "a positive response to the prospects for a settlement.

"It is only a beginning. The Akali Dal shoull respond if they really mean to find a permanent solution to the issues in the Punjab."

The Akali Dal reiterated on Friday that the leaders of the party must be released and a judicial inquiry ordered into riots last November before meaningful negotiations could begin.

Mr Gandhi has refused to appoint such an inquiry into the riots but has expressed his willingness to consider a wider study which would include the terrorist movement in Punjab.

Hanoi gains political mileage on the battlefield

By IAN WARD in Bangkok

VIETNAM last night seemed on the verge of making a clean sweep of all Khmer guerrilla bases inside Cambodia's western frontier with Thailand, thereby securing an important political advantage over those opposed to the Hanoi-backed régime in Phnom Penh.

Guerrillas at Tatum, their last forward stronghold on Khmer territory, have withstood a week of Vietnamese artillery bombardment.

However, they were reported last night to be withdrawing.

Rebel spokesmen are describing the withdrawal as a tactical retreat aimed at regrouping and refurbishing the defending ranks for future offensive operations.

Unhappily for the anti-Vietnamese tripartite Cambodian coalition, headed by Prince Sihanouk, this is the sixth time such a description has been used to explain away battlefield setbacks suffered by guerrillas since Vietnam launched its dry season military push in November.

Key prize

One after another, the bases of Nong Chan, Nong Samet, Ampil, Phum Thmey and Phnom Malai have fallen before the determined Hanoi drive.

As the only major guerrilla stronghold inside Cambodia still standing when Vietnamese artillerymen began ranging on the 1,312 ft high cliff-top position seven days ago, Tatum (Green Hill) quickly became a key psychological prize for attacker and defender alike.

Hanoi now seems destined to achieve the maximum propaganda effect from its action. The crumbling of Tatum's defence lines coincided with yesterday's arrival in Bangkok of China's President Li Xiannian.

At the top of the agenda for President Li's discussions with Thai leaders during the next four days is the deepening crisis for those opposing Vietnam in the wake of Hanoi's military advances.

Puppet regime

China, together with the Association of South-East Asian Nations, of which Thailand is a member, are the principle supporters and benefactors of the anti-Vietnam Cambodian coalition.

The rebel government, which claims headquarters inside Cambodia but more often operates from Thai territory, consists of three factions, each with its own separate guerrilla army.

Faction leaders are the overall titular head, Prince Sihanouk, the respected Rightist politician Son Sann, and the tainted Pol Pot, still leading the Communist Khmer Rouge who were responsible for slaughtering upwards of a million Khmers after coming to power in Phnom Penn in 1975.

Cashing in on the world-wide disgust at the monstrous policies of Pol Pot and his henchmen, Vietnam in the final days of 1978 invaded its Cambodian neighbour, which had become openly obstructive to Hanoi's dominance of the Indo-China region

Amid great controversy in 1982, the Asean member States, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines (since joined by Brunei), forced the amalgam of the three disparate Khmer groupings in the hope that together they would mount not only a credible military threat to the occupying Vietnamese Army in Cambodia but also an acceptable political alternative to Hanoi's puppet regime in Phnom Penn.

Internationally the coalition has had some notable success in that it has managed, through skilful lobbying by its sponsors, to retain United Nations recognition of its legality.

But the glaring lack of political cohesion between the three factions in the grouping—the main argument against the coalition idea that Singapore's insistence finally overrode in 1982—has been a constant stumbling block to its functions and acceptability.

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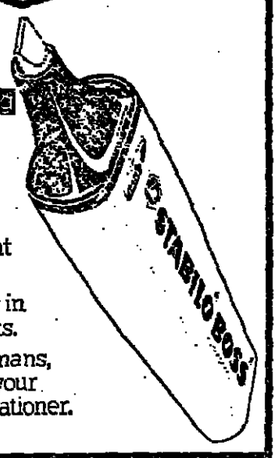

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W. German Liberals in key polls revival

By MICHAEL FARR in Bonn

KEY state elections in West Berlin and the Saarland on Sunday have brought something of a liberal revival in West Germany as well as a fillip for the Left-wing of the Social Democratic party.

Under their new leader, Herr Martin Bangemann, the Bonn Economics Minister, the liberals (Free Democrats) confounded expectations and reversed their recent steady decline in elections.

And in the Saarland, with its ailing steel industry and 14 per cent. unemployment, the Social Democrats under their local Left-wing leader, Herr Oskar Lafontaine, a strong critic of Nato membership, brought about the first change of power in a state in favour of the party since 1966.

Reviewing the results Chancellor Kohl acknowledged that his Christian Democratic party had suffered "a severe defeat" in the Saarland. Its share of the vote plummeted almost seven points to 37·5 per cent.

The tribulations of the party were compounded by being beaten into second place behind the Social Democrats in municipal elections in Hesse, although the party did manage to hold the key city of Frankfurt.

Some consolation

But there was some consolation for Chancellor Kohl in the Christian Democrats and Liberals maintaining their hold on West Berlin comfortably while the Social Democrats were trounced.

For the anti-establishment "Greens" and their equivalent in West Berlin, the "Alternative List," the state polls saw them fall short of expectations for the first time following a string of recent successes.

In the Saarland they failed to win any seats, while in West Berlin the Alternative List increased its share of the vote by more than three per cent., less, however, than had been anticipated.

Herr Willy Brandt, the veteran Social Democratic leader, observed yesterday that the Greens had "passed their peak."

The success of Herr Lafontaine, 41, the Mayor of Saarbrücken, who has called for the withdrawal of American troops from West Germany and Bonn's withdrawal from Nato's integrated military structure, has brought forward a left-wing contender for the future leadership of the Social Democrats.

The impact of his win was further increased by the resounding defeat dealt to Herr Hans Apel, a former Finance and Defence Minister and Social Democrat Right-winger, in the West Berlin election.

ELECTION IN GREECE DEMANDED

By PAUL ANAST in Athens

GREECE'S conservative opposition leader yesterday demanded immediate elections to end "a major political crisis" after the sudden resignation of President Karamanlis.

The resignation of Greek's "grand old man of politics" followed the Socialist Government's decision not to support him for a second five-year term of office.

The Government was trying to subvert democracy life the Nazis did in Germany in the 1930s, Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the New Democracy party, said at a Press conference.

"Only immediate elections can solve the crisis," he added.

Threat to Nato

"Mr Papandreou, the Prime Minister, claims he did not fulfil his original threats to break with the West, to leave Nato and the Common Market, because Karamanlis would not allow him. Will he do so now?"

Meanwhile, sources in the pro-Moscow Greek Communist party said yesterday that the party has decided to support the Government, making almost certain that the candidate nominated by the Socialists in place of Mr Karamanlis, Supreme Court Judge Christos Santzetakis, would be elected.

This is expected to create a Left-wing front and tense polarisation between Left and Right.

Mr Dimitrios Maroudas, Government spokesman, said: "The sooner the elections take place, the sooner Mr Mitsotakis and his party will be defeated."

HONDURAS JOINS SALVADORANS IN SWEEP

By Our Washington Staff

Thousands of Salvadoran troops began a major anti-guerrilla sweep in the northern Chaletenango Province yesterday, apparently acting in concert with Honduran troops along the border between the two countries.

The Salvadoran military is determined to clean up pockets of guerrillas in the northern mountains to prevent them disrupting voting in the legislative elections on March 31.

DUST OVER ETNA

By Our Rome Correspondent

Mount Etna, Western Europe's highest and most active volcano, hurled clouds of black volcanic dust high into the air from two craters yesterday. Explosions continuously shook its slopes.

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The weak 'caretaker' who battled his way into the footnotes of Soviet history

POLITBURO RIVALS FOUND CHERNENKO A USEFUL STOPGAP

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

KONSTANTIN USTINOVICH CHERNENKO, who has died in Moscow, aged 73, was a propagandist and Communist party clerk who battled his way into the footnotes of Soviet history.

He overcame the threat of political eclipse after losing to Mr Yuri Andropov in the post-Brezhnev succession of November, 1982, and was vested with power by the party Old-Guard when President Andropov died in February last year.

But he was neither effective nor admired.

He was a stopgap found useful by Politburo veterans and "young hopefuls" alike. The Old Guard rallied around him to preserve their own positions while younger men needed time to muster strength.

From the first sounds of coughing and breathlessness in his oration at the Andropov funeral, it was clear that Mr Chernenko had serious lung trouble and could be no more than a caretaker leader.

Sulky hostility

He was named President two months after succeeding as party chief but, without real experience of world affairs, he allowed Mr Gromyko, 75, the Foreign Minister, to dominate foreign policy-making.

Russia became more than usually antagonistic and defensive, reacting with sulky hostility to President Reagan's policies while alleging a resurgence of militarism in West Germany and Japan.

Mr Chernenko made a hurried effort to acquaint himself with world leaders, in an exhausting programme of Kremlin meetings which took up most of his first six months in office.

But for much of last year, visitors, including Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, found the Chernenko-Gromyko partnership inflexible on the central

Editorial Comment—P16

issue of reviving nuclear arms negotiations.

Mr Chernenko, with the dour Foreign Minister always at his elbow, insisted until November on maintaining Mr Andropov's demand that American cruise and Pershing 2 missiles be withdrawn from Western Europe before stalled negotiations could resume.

Back to Geneva

At the same time, Russian positions hardened in several areas, with a new military offensive in Afghanistan, withdrawal from the Olympics, increased persecution of the Sakharovs, and a temporary cooling off in the lukewarm rapprochement with China.

Mr Chernenko did manage at least to hold an economic summit of Soviet bloc leaders after years of disputes and delays.

By January the Russian and American Foreign Ministers were talking about arms in Geneva again, arranging new negotiations but the Kremlin leader's health was failing rapidly.

He was not seen for two months from Dec. 27, despite a stream of statements and letters issued in his name.

Ill but in charge

A Warsaw Pact summit planned for January was postponed.

He reappeared briefly twice on television for regional elections.

In an unprecedented announcement, Russians were told that doctors had advised the leader not to make his expected election speech.

Foreigners had already learned of the President's illness through diplomatic contacts and from the editor of PRAVDA, who said in an Italian television interview on Feb. 6 that Mr Chernenko was sick, though still in charge.

Official handling of news about the leader's illness was on the whole franker than in the case of Mr Andropov who, throughout a final absence of six months, was said to be recovering from a cold.

At home, Mr Chernenko was no more constructive than in foreign affairs.

He promised to continue Mr Andropov's limited economic reforms but seemed more interested in questions of ideology and propaganda, and grandiose land development schemes.

Mr Andropov's campaigns for labour discipline and economic experiment were carried on in desultory fashion and, it seemed, only at the prompting of reform-minded younger men in the Politburo.

Cult built up

Within weeks of Mr Chernenko assuming power there was an "as you were" atmosphere in Russia, a feeling of "business as usual" after the rigorous demands of Mr Andropov's short-lived efficiency drive.

To counter public apathy toward the new leader, the party launched a mild personality cult, issuing photographs of him and with his wife, Anna, daughter, Elena, and grandson, Mitia.

It published new editions of his books and lively tales of his years as a crackshot in the Mounted Border Guards 50 years ago.

The reference to his military service—later developed into a feature film—was particularly necessary to offset the fact that Mr Chernenko sat out the "Great Patriotic War" against Nazi Germany at a school for Communist party officials in Moscow.

Mr Chernenko took from his predecessor the distinction of being the oldest man ever named to head the party, and also the one whose tenure was the briefest.

His term in office was so short that he was unable to place any of his own men in the leadership, although he relied on considerable latent support among fellow "Apparatchiks" from the Brezhnev era who felt threatened by reform.

Son of Siberia

Mr Chernenko joined the Communist party in 1951, the year his main young rival, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, was born.

He spent the first 30 years of his life in the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia where he was born the son of peasants in 1911.

His squat, Asiatic features were combined in later years with a chesty, asthmatic appearance due to emphysema, an irreversible lung disease.

The young Konstantin left school at 12, studied at the higher party school in Moscow during the war and, aged 42, graduated by correspondence from the Kishinev Teachers' College.

His early party work was in "agitprop"—agitation and propaganda.

He rose to local party office in Krasnoyarsk before going off to study in Moscow. After the 1939-45 war, he became Chief of Propaganda in Moldavia where in 1948 he met Leonid Brezhnev, who was to be his lifelong patron.

Heir to Brezhnev

Mr Brezhnev made him head of the "Agitprop" Department of the party Central Committee in 1956. Then he moved him on to the executive staff of the Supreme Soviet in 1960.

In 1965 Mr Brezhnev gave him the powerful job of running the Central Committee's General Department. This was equivalent to heading the Cabinet Secretariat in Britain.

Mr Chernenko relinquished this post only after Mr Andropov took office in 1982.

It was plain that Mr Brezhnev intended Mr Chernenko to succeed him, but many of his colleagues had no respect for the *arriviste* who had risen so swiftly on the Brezhnev coat-tails.

Mr Chernenko had been a full member of the Central Committee only since 1971 and a full Politburo member only since 1978.

He lacked direct experience of agricultural and industrial management, as well as foreign affairs.

Harm from the West

He was a supporter of Mr Brezhnev's detente policy and, unlike Mr Andropov, had at least visited the West several times.

But he often warned of harmful cultural influences from the West and, as ideology chief under President Andropov, waged a sterile campaign against "alien" trends in all forms of artistic expression.

He uttered such aphorisms as "There are truths which are not subject to revision," and "We need vivid stories about heroes of the five-year plan."

As Mr Andropov's health declined, Mr Chernenko's waning political prospects brightened again.

UNABLE TO MAKE BREAKTHROUGH

By Our Copenhagen Correspondent

"President Chernenko was not at the helm long enough to seriously mark Soviet politics," Denmark's Conservative Prime Minister, Mr Poul Schluter, said yesterday.

"Although there has been some thaw in American-Soviet relations recently, Konstantin Chernenko was unable to create the breakthrough in East-West relations all had hoped for."

NORWAY'S HOPE

By Our Oslo Correspondent

"The Norwegian Government hopes the new Soviet leadership will follow a course which will make it possible to achieve concrete results in arms-limitation negotiations," Norway's Conservative Prime Minister, Mr Kaare Willoch said in a statement yesterday.

President Chernenko casting his vote in the regional elections on Feb. 24—the first time he had appeared in public for two months.

Chopin and swans were heralds of death

A TELEVISION newsreader in black suit and tie announced President Chernenko's death to Russians yesterday afternoon. Many people expected the announcement because solemn music by Chopin and film of gliding swans had replaced the usual light entertainment.

Mr Chernenko died of heart failure caused the lung disease emphysema, and also liver trouble, a Kremlin medical bulletin said.

The report, signed by Dr Yevgeny Chazov, the chief Kremlin physician, said therapy failed to arrest the deterioration of the heart and lungs.

Outside Russia, foreigners were alerted to the situation by news that Soviet leaders travelling abroad were suddenly returning home. Mr Vladimir Shcherbitsky, a member of the ruling Politburo, broke off a visit to the United States.

TV teams move in

By 11 a.m. police were supervising the unloading of crowd barriers outside the green and white Hall of Columns in central Moscow, where leaders since Lenin have traditionally lain in State.

Television outside-broadcast teams were busy setting up for the arrival of the first mourners.

Organised groups of workers, soldiers and students will be drafted through the black-draped hall all day today, and until Mr Chernenko is taken for burial in Red Square at 1 p.m. Moscow time tomorrow.

Barely able to talk

The first bulletin on his death said it came on Sunday evening "after a grave illness."

Mr Chernenko, 73, had made only two brief television appearances since Dec. 27. He looked extremely frail and barely able to talk when he was last shown on television 12 days ago.

Mr Chernenko died just 13 months after President Andropov succumbed to kidney disease, aged 69, and 28 months after the death of President Brezhnev, at 75, in November, 1982.

The official tribute to Mr Chernenko, read out on television and radio, was worded very like that for Mr Andropov. It called Mr Chernenko "a consistent fighter for the triumph of the ideals of Communism and peace on earth."

'Fiery propagandist'

He was "a fiery propagandist of Marxism-Leninism," and "a responsive and demanding leader" who was "keen and sensitive" to working people's needs. He would live for ever in their hearts.

The announcement pledged the Communist party to make its "supreme goal" the raising of living standards "on the basis of the intensification of the economy and the acceleration of scientific and technical progress in every possible way."

The drive for discipline, order and efficiency (which was started by Mr Andropov) would be "followed insistently," the Kremlin bulletin said.

On world issues, the announcement added, "we want an end to the arms race and nonmilitarisation of space, and are working perseveringly to achieve that goal.

Strengthen defence

"Our ultimate objective is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere in the world; the complete removal of the threat of nuclear war."

The announcement went on: "The Soviet Union threatens no one and does not seek military superiority. But it will not allow any other country or coalition of states to gain such superiority.

"That is why we will continue to strengthen the defence capability of our socialist motherland.

Schools will close tomorrow for the funeral, which will also be marked by a five-minute silence throughout industry, by artillery salutes, and the blowing o fships' hooters.

Chronic lung disease takes toll on heart

By Dr K. C. HUTCHIN Medical Consultant

IT had long been known that President Chernenko was suffering from emphysema, a chronic respiratory condition in which the air chambers of the lungs become overstretched and lose elasticity.

This condition, which causes progressive shortness of breath, places an increasing strain on the heart and circulation, producing a state of hypozia, meaning that insufficient oxygen is available for the tissues of the body.

In time the strain would affect other vital organs such as the liver, where in Mr Chernosko's case a condition of cirrhosis developed in which the liver cells became replaced by fibrous tissue.

This in turn increases the strain on the heart, and allows fluid to accumulate in the tissues which the saturation is unable to eliminate.

When such a serious condition has developed, although measures may be taken to give temporary relief, no cure is possible.

All the organs of the body become affected by degenerative changes and progressive deterioration of the whole system is inevitable.

Ultimately, apparently, hert failure occurred and, being associated with failure of the lungs and liver, it would be unlikely that any treatment which would prolong the life of an elderly chronic invalid would be possible.

CND LOBBY MISSION

Mgr Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and Miss Joan Ruddock, CND chairman, flew to Geneva yesterday to lobby leaders of the American and Soviet delegations taking part in the arms talks.

Leader needs time to make his mark

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

THE naming of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, at 54 a vigorous young leader, to succeed President Chernenko could strengthen the Kremlin's position at the all-important nuclear and space weapons talks with the Americans in Geneva.

Meanwhile, Western diplomats believe Soviet negotiating positions on disarmament and other foreign-policy issues are well-established and unlikely to change as a result of the leader's death.

But the Soviet Union can only benefit by having in Mr Chernenko's successor a man young enough to offer continuity in steering the Kremlin through the complex arms negotiations ahead.

Months of uncertainty over Mr Chernenko's condition naturally caused doubt in the West over who was really in charge in Moscow. The constant role of Mr Gromyko, 75, the veteran Foreign Minister, gave much-needed stability but he cannot be expected to carry on indefinitely.

Marshall Ustinov, the Defence Minister, died in December as the Soviet return to Geneva was being planned. Then almost immediately Mr Chernenko disappeared from view for two months in the vital run-up to the opening of full negotiations.

Moscow seemed at pains to show the West there was a strong young successor in the wings when Mr Gorbachev, the youngest Politburo member, appeared before foreign journalists to vote in regional elections on Feb. 24.

Mysterious process

With Mr Gorbachev becoming leader the question mark over the health of the Kremlin head will be erased for the first time since President Brezhnev's faltering final years.

While the new leader may wish eventually to stamp his own mark on the Soviet appoach to arms control, diplomats do not expect sudden changes. Soviet policy-making is a mysterious process but not, it is thought, subject to the sole personal direction of the Kremlin leader, especially if he is only newly installed.

Mr Gorbachev has acknowledged the burden of arms spending on the Soviet economy, but has stated that it is inescapable.

He said in a speech in Sofia in September that strengthening Russia's defences "deflects a considerable part of our resources . . . but the countries of the Socialist community cannot act otherwise."

Diplomats expect Moscow to keep as its top priority its current effort to block President Reagan's space-based strategic initiative, which could force the Soviet Union into a costly new phase of the arms race.

Afghanistan problem

Soviet foreign policy, overall, remains as bogged down in several crucial areas as it was when Mr Andropov succeeded Mr Brezhnev in November, 1982.

Soviet troops are still ensnared in Afghanistan and Moscow still lacks a full diplomatic role in the Middle East. Talks about a Sino-Soviet political rapprochement are in stalemate, while social unrest continues to simmer in Poland.

Before the new leader can be expected to make important policy changes in these areas, he must gather support around him in the ruling Politburo. This process will take time and has sometimes in the past meant a tendency for the Kremlin leadership to concentrate on domestic political questions for several months after a succession.

U.S. carrot and stick policy as arms talks go on

By DAVID ADAMSON Diplomatic Correspondent in Brussels

THE United States will not shift its position on space weapons but it will offer the Soviet Union modification of its proposals for reductions in long-range and medium-range missiles when the two sides begin negotiating in Geneva.

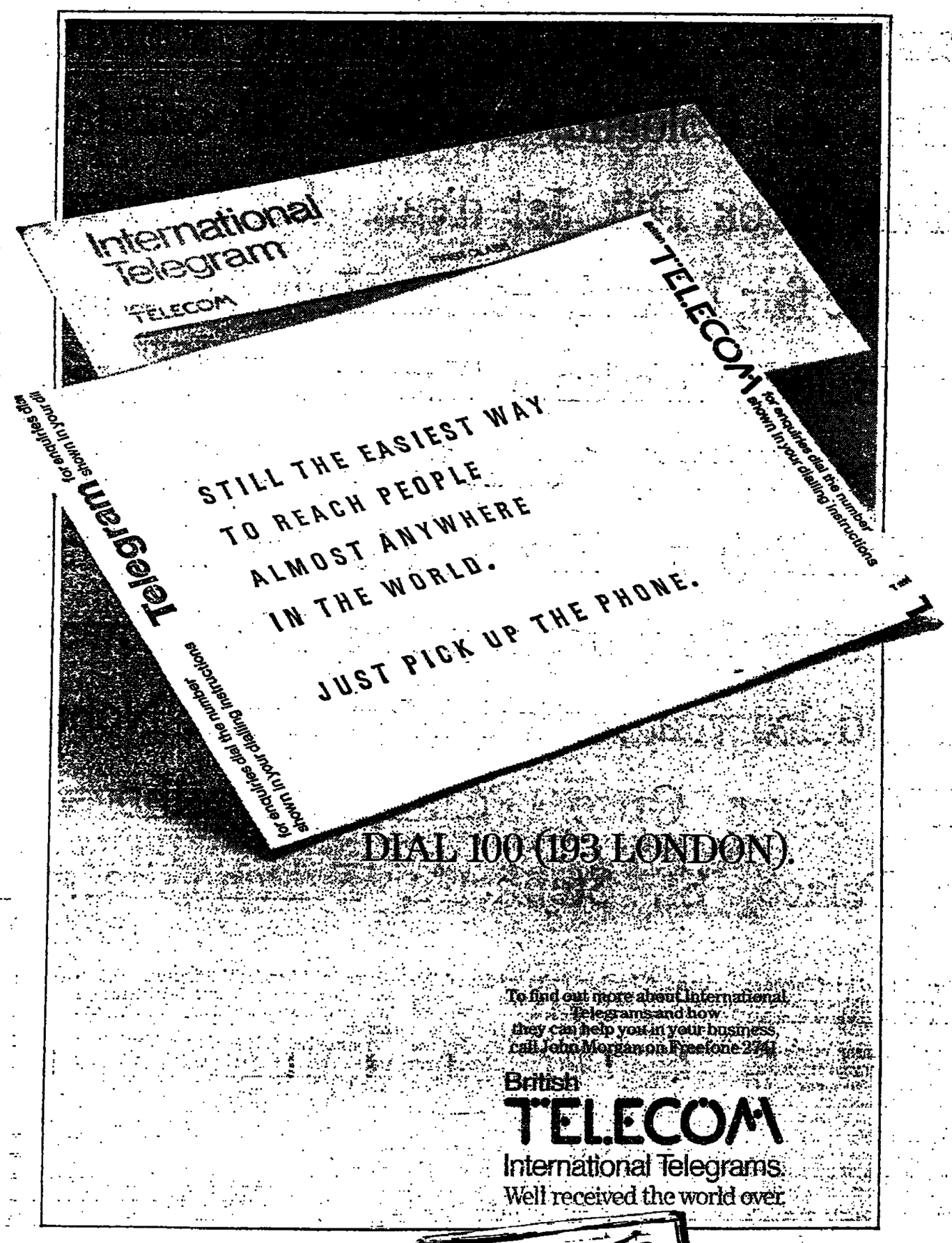
A basically carrot-and-stick approach was outlined to the Nato Council (composed of senior officials) and the Special Consultative Group on Euro-missiles at briefings by American officials in Brussels yesterday.

The talks between the super powers opened formally in Geneva today, without any change of plan as a result of Mr Chernenko's death.

Business as usual

There was no comment publicly at Nato headquarters on Mr Gorbachev's immediate appointment as secretary-general of the Soviet Communist party but there is undoubtedly relief that a man regarded as relatively young and open-minded has taken over without any hiatus in the Kremlin's leadership.

"It will be business as usual at Geneva," said Mr Richard Burt, the senior American State Department official who is chairman of the Special Consultative Group.



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Doubt mingles with hope as Moscow's man-in-the-street looks on

RUSSIANS SEE AN OPENING FOR CHANGE

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

RUSSIANS approached in the street as yesterday's leadership succession unfolded stressed a need for change and their hopes that the youthful Mr Gorbachev would strengthen peace and prosperity.

"We need a younger man like Gorbachev, who is more likely to last out and can take his time about consolidating power and putting younger men like himself in office," said Vasya, a 29-year-old historian.

Editorial Comment—P16

"It's a shame that we have been made the laughing stock of the world because the third leader in a row has died in office after such a short term.

"Chernenko wasn't an active politician — he just shuffled papers all his life. Nothing changed under him for better or for worse. What we need is change.

"I don't know anything about Gorbachev except from his photograph — he's younger — that's all there is to be glad about and hope for.

'Not up to us'

"I hope he has time to institute some changes but, if he doesn't what can we do?

"It's not up to the man in the street who becomes leader or what he does when he gets there. This isn't England, you know.

"We aren't talking about the sudden demise of a Margaret Thatcher but of a political figure who wasn't much more than a name to most of the people. Half the country don't know he's dead yet and the other half are not bothered about it."

Olya, a 33-year-old shop girl in a fur hat and dark woollen coat, said: "I've only heard rumours. There's always rumours.

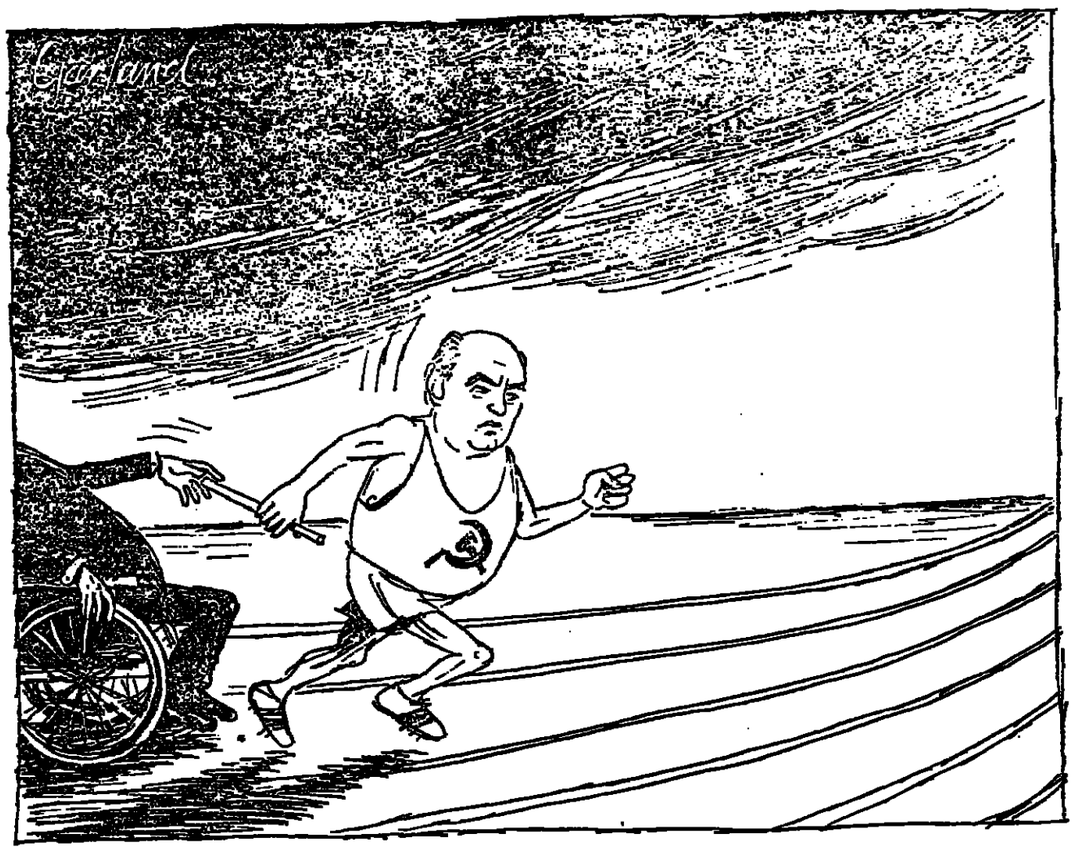
"I don't care who they put up next as leader as long as he's more active and younger than Chernenko and he is for *peace and friendship*."

Sergei Ivanovich, a 30-year-old mathematician, in a black coat and thick glasses, said Mr Gorbachev would improve the chances for preserving peace.

"Gorbachev has already been to England and seemed tobe successful there," he said.

Then just after he left, Margaret Thatcher went to see Reagan.

"We need someone who can communicate and who is active. Gorbachev is more a politician in that sense than Chernenko ever was.



Mrs Thatcher using sign language when she organised a photograph during the visit to Chequers of Mr Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa last December. Mrs Gorbachev's suit and the elegant fur jacket she wore for a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon won her praise from Western fashion experts.

Stylish wife showed 'star quality'

By DAVID MILLWARD

BRITAIN caught its first sight of Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa in a high profile visit in December which was seen as a great success by Whitehall.

Mr Gorbachev's status as "heir apparent" to Mr Chernenko, his youth and the outgoing personality of his wife ensured considerable media interest throughout their stay.

Ironically, their stay was curtailed on Dec. 21 after six days because of the death of the Soviet Defence Minister, Marshal Ustinov.

Sense of humour

Much of Mr Gorbachev's visit involved intensive negotiations with Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, and diplomatic sources stressed that he had made a good impression on the British Government.

According to British sources he was businesslike, relaxed and had a good sense of humour.

But Mr Gorbachev and his entourage paid considerable attention to winning the "hearts and minds" of the British public.

Mr Gorbachev interspersed his diplomatic talks with occasional bouts of "playing tourist" with his wife, visiting Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London and exen a Marks and Spencer store.

The putative Soviet first family raised a few eyebrows by forgoing a wreath-laying ceremony at Karl Marx's grave at Highgate cemetery.

As the visit progressed, Mrs Gorbachev became a media star in her own right with her stylish appearance a far cry from the normally-accepted appearance of Russian political wives. Fashion writers praised her wardrobe and her occasional burst of English was religiously recorded by accompanying reporters.

Visiting Hampton Court she sported white calf-length boots, an elegant Western suit and coat, and a chic short haircut offset by pearl earrings.

The importance of the Gorbachev visit to London was fullyl appreciated by the Soviet media which gave it lengthy television coverage and stressed its goodwill message.

Chance for Peking to improve strained links

By HUGH DAVIES in Hongkong

CHINA is expected to send a high-level delegation to Mr Chernenko's funeral to mark her willingness to improve the decades of strained diplomatic ties.

In announcing his death, Peking significantly made a point of saying that relations had improved during his rule. However, it was the final item on the evening television news broadcast.

In December, Mr Ivan Arkhipov, Soviet First Deputy Premier, spent a week meeting Chinese leaders in Peking and touring the Shenzen special economic zone near Hongkong.

As a result, trade and cultural contacts were increased, although the Chinese made it clear that the Communist neighbours were still completely at odds ideologically.

Now there are reports that Moscow intends to resume the supply of low-grade technology to China to help modernise the thousands of factories abandoned by the Russians during the mid-1960s.

At the same time a senior military official told me two weeks ago that Russia was still considered the greatest threat to stability in China, particularly as Moscow continued to station large numbers of troops and SS-20 missiles on the Sino-Soviet border.

Chinese officials were not immediately available last night to announce who would attend Mr Chernenko's funeral, but Vice Premier Wan Li flew to Moscow last year when Mr Andropov died.

Three-day tribute

OUR NEW DELHI correspondent writes: The Indian Government yesterday ordered three days state mourning for Mr Chenenko. Mr Gandhi, the Prime Minister, said he was flying to Moscow today the funeral.

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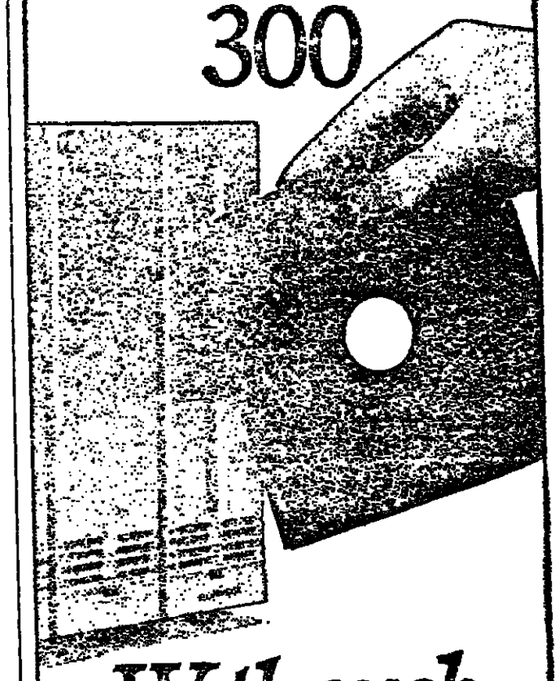

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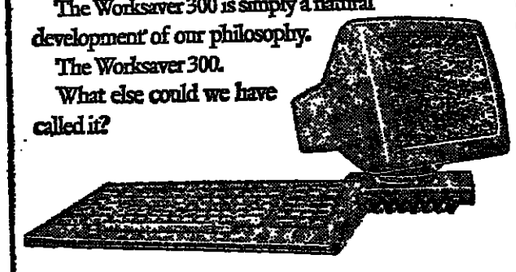

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DT/W/3

POLICE 'MUST TELL CRIME VICTIMS HOW THE CASE IS GOING'

By *JOHN WEEKS Crime Staff*

VICTIMS of crime often feel isolated and disillusioned with the police because overworked and brusque detectives show less enthusiasm when there is little prospect of an arrest, Mr Brian Johnson, Chief Constable of Lancashire, said yesterday.

People who become victims are less interested in the criminal being caught than in seeing that something is being done and experiencing a caring response from police, he told a Kensington conference of victims' support groups.

They also need to be informed about the progress of an investigation to stop victims feeling isolated.

He suggested that police should adopt a standard practice to inform victims by letter or telephone about the progress of their case every six weeks.

"Many victims feel the police had been brusque in their approach, on occasions insensitive, sometime superficial in their inquiries and many complain most bitterly that they had not been kept informed of either the progress or the result of the investigation," said Mr Johnson.

He said that although burglary was sometimes trivial in terms of value stolen, police could do a great deal for the welfare of victims.

They could listen sympathetically to victims' concerns, reassure them with basic facts and carry out initial investigations at the scene of crimes, even though these might be clearly fruitless.

He went on: "Perhaps because of the defensive position we sometimes take, we have inculcated in young officers a need for them to slavishly follow set procedures and to concentrate exclusively on the identification and detection of offenders to the detriment, in some cases, of ensuring the wellbeing and reassurance of the victim."

Grant increased

The Government is to increase the grant to support groups of victims of crime by £62,000 to £120,000, it was announced yesterday.

FIRE KILLS BABY

A 22-month-old baby girl, Nicola Street, died in a blaze in a house in Barnfield, Crediton, Devon, yesterday.

Yard crime figures show 12 pc rise

By JOHN WEEKS Crime Staff

CRIME in the Metropolitan Police district during last year rose by about 12 per cent.

The annual crime figures are expected to show increases in armed robberies, burglaries, robberies with violence, including mugging, and criminal damage cases.

The statistics are a disappointment for Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, but he has been encouraged by an increase in the overall detection rate.

Local needs

Senior Yard detectives believe they will be able to make significant inroads into the escalating crime rate when reorganisation schemes, now in an advanced state of planning, take effect.

These include improved training for CID officers and the setting up of eight districts each headed by a Deputy Assistant Commissioner who will set his own priorities according to local needs.

The Yard were encouraged by the drop of four per cent in the number of crimes recorded in 1983. They fell to 653,293 in that year but have sharply increased since. Some senior offices believe that the demand on manpower in policing the miners dispute for a year is partly to blame.

STATION DESTROYED

A two-man police station at Corrinshigagh, Co. Monaghan, close to the Ulster border, was destroyed by arsonists early yesterday. The station is not manned at night.

Labour MP refuses to list interests

By *NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff*

BRIAN SEDGEMORE, Left-wing Labour M P for Hackney South and Shoreditch, has joined Mr Enoch Powell in boycotting the register of Members' interests produced each year by the Commons.

Ever since the register was inaugurated in the mid-1970s in the wake of the Poulson case, Mr Powell has refused to make any declaration on principle.

Mr Sedgemore, once Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mr Wedgwood Benn, originally co-operated to the extent of saying that he undertook freelance journalism.

More consultancies

But his entry in the 1985 report, published yesterday, adds after repeating this information: "Mr Sedgemore has intimated that this entry is no longer correct: He has not, however, declared any change to it."

The main feature of the new register is a sharp increase in the number of consultancies held by backbench MPs—almost all of them Conservatives—to supplement their Parliamentary salary of £16,904.

The number acting as consultants to business and other outside bodies has risen by 23 to 137, and the number of consultancies from 175 to 285.

The figures prompted Mr Gordon Brown, Labour M P for Dunfermline East, to write to Mrs Thatcher urging that what he renamed the "City and Offshore party" should issue new guidelines to its M Ps on the appropriateness of representing outside interests at Westminster.

The register passes no judgment on consultancies indeed the fact that M ps are encouraged to list threats is an indication that they are an accepted feature of political life.

Cinzano and chicken

Mr Peter Fry, Conservative M P for Wellingborough, gives an indication of the breadth of ing the client firms of Political the consultancy business by listing Research and Communication International, of which he is a director.

They include Airbus Industrie, Kentucky Fried Chicken, the National Bus company, Vye Telecom and Thames Water.

A second firm on whose board he sits, CBA Public Affairs, has clients including Cinzano and Hewlett-Packard.

The register lists a number of senior politicians outside the Government as having taken on consultancies and directorships.

For example Mr James Prior, who resigned as Northern Ireland Secretary in September, lists not ony his chairmanship of G E C but also directorships of Barclays Bank, United Biscuits and Sainsburys. He retains his farming interests in Suffolk and Hampshire.

Register of Members' Interests on Jan. 9, 1985. H M S O. £6·40.

DEATHS, IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Back Page

L'ESTRANGE.—On March 10, 1985, peacefully at home, STELLA MURIEL, eldest daughter of the late HENRY and EVELYN L'ESTRANGE, Lissadell, Sligo.

LLOYD.—On March 7, peacefully at home, Pool-in-Wharfedale, WILLIAM JOHN KYNASTON LLOYD, O.B.E., aged 75 years, husband of the late Beryl and father of Michele, Amanda and Victoria. Funeral service will be held in St Wilfrid's Parish Church, Pool-in-Wharfedale, on Friday, March 15, at 1.45 p.m., followed by cremation at Rawdon Crematorium 2.30 p.m. No flowers please, but donations if desired may be sent to the Yorkshire Cancer Research Fund, c/o The Manager, Yorkshire Bank, Brook Street, Ilkley.

LOCKHART.—On March 9, 1985, DOROTHY, aged 86 years, widow of Sir CHARLES LOCKHART. Funeral service at Oxford Crematorium, on Thursday, March 14, at 9.30 a.m. No flowers, please, but donations if desired may be sent to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Commonwealth House, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

LOE.—On March 6, at Tadworth Nursing Home, MARY (nee Proctor), widow of William Ernest Lilburn, mother of James, Judy and Michael. Funeral at Havant on March 15. Flowers to Carroll.

LUCAS.—On March 10, peacefully at St Thomas' Hospital, DOLLY LUCAS, O.B.E., wife of the late Claude Lucas. Funeral arrangements by Kenyon. Family flowers only. Donations to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

LUFF.—On March 11, 1985, peacefully and bravely at the Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed, in her 67th year, JOYCE LUFF, widow of Tom Luff, of Windsor, and mother of Peter Luff. Loved by all who knew her. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, on Tuesday, March 19, at 1.45 p.m., followed by cremation at Slough Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to The Sue Ryder Home, Joyce Grove, Nettlebed, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

MacDOUGALL. — On March 10, at home after a long illness borne with great courage and dignity, IVOR ANDERSON MACDOUGALL, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., R.A.M.C., 1940-45, late County Medical Officer for Hampshire, devoted husband of Rosalie and father of Gordon (Margaret), Mary [illegible] Katherine, James, Sophie and Robert, loving brother of Margaret and Logan. Funeral at Wonston on Friday, March 15, at 11.15 a.m. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to The Secretary, Strathardle Highland Games, The Manse, Kirkmichael, Perthshire, to commemorate his name in the Highlands he loved so well.

McEWEN.—On March 10, peacefully at his home at Telscombe Cliff, ALAN DOUGLAS MCEWEN, O.B.E., D.Sc., M.R.C.V.S. Cremation private.

MACLACHLAN.—On March 6, suddenly whilst on holiday in Tenerife, DUNCAN MACLACHLAN, F.D.S., R.C.P.S. Glas., Hon. Consultant Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, aged 74, beloved husband of Grace, father to Helen, Mary, Fiona and Scott and much loved grandfather. Inquiries to L. C. Weston, Funeral Directors, Tel. Harpenden 2865 after March 15.

MAHER.—On March 6, 1985, peacefully in hospital, REGINALD, aged 76 years of Streatham Hill. Funeral at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, on Monday, March 18, at 2.30 p.m. (East Chapel). Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Mount Vernon Scanner Appeal, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middx.

MANN.—On March 9, peacefully after a short illness, FRANCES ANN, beloved daughter of Sadie Collins and the late Maj. James Collins.

MANSFIELD.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully at Ryde Hospital, ERNEST DAVID, beloved husband of Ethel and father of Hilary and Carole. Family flowers only. Donations to Isle of Wight Gideons, Mottistone Manor Farm, Mottistone, Isle of Wight.

MARNAU.—On March 9, SENTA (nee Pommer), wife of Alfred, mother of Corinna (Sr Maximilian). Our beloved and unforgettable, was so visibly in the grace of God throughout her suffering. She has now gone ahead. Please pray for her dear soul. Beatus quem elegisti et assumpsisti, inhabitabit in atriis tuis. Requiem Mass sung in the immemorial rite on Friday, March 15, at 10.30 a.m., at the Church of the Assumption and St Gregory, Warwick Street, London, W.1. All inquiries or flowers to A. France & Son, 45, Lambs Conduit Street, London, W.C.1, tel 01-405 4901.

MATTHEWS. — On March 9, 1985, peacefully after a short illness, at home in Kirklevington, County Cleveland, ETHELBERT (Bert) (Solicitor), beloved husband of Margaret, much loved father of Patricia and Gillian and a very dear grandpa. Cremation private. Family flowers only, please. Donations, in lieu, if desired, may be sent to Cancer Research Fund, c/o the Manager, National Westminster Bank plc, P.O Box 32, 125, High Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. Letters and all inquiries c/o Crake & Mallon Funeral Service, 91, Skinner Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. Tel. 611716 or 582121. A memorial service to be held at a later date.

MEYER.—On March 7, 1985, in hospital, HEDWIG. Funeral service St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, 2 p.m., on Thursday, March 14, followed by cremation at Golders Green Crematorium 3.30 p.m. No flowers, but donations if desired to St Martin-in-the-Fields Restoration Fund.

MITCHELL.—On March 7, at Cheltenham, CHRISTIAN STUART MITCHELL, A.C.I.I., R.A.C., formerly of Hampstead Gardens, Golders Green, very dearly loved husband of Ruby Maud Mitchell (nee Pagel). Funeral service at St Peters Church, Winchcombe, Glos., on Thursday, March 14, 2 p.m. "A knight without armour."

MITCHELL.—On March 2, 1985, peacefully in hospital, FRANK C. MITCHELL, aged 83, late of James Burrows and Sidney Caters.

MONILAWS.—On March 8, 1985, suddenly, following a short illness, DOROTHY JANE, widow of STANLEY MONILAWS, darling mother of Audrey, reunited now with her sons Roy, George and Richard, who preceded her to their rest, much loved grandmother of James and Catherine. Service at Holy Cross Church, Ashington Road, S.W.6, at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 15, followed by private cremation. No letters or flowers, please.

MUMMERY.—On March 10, peacefully at home after an illness courageously borne, KENNETH ALAN, Wing Cmdr (Ret'd), dearly loved husband of Sally and father of Christine and Carol. Service All Saints', Marlow, Friday, March 15, 2.30 p.m. Interment Marlow Cemetery.

MYERS.—On March 10, peacefully at Ham Green Hospital, Bristol, SYD. Funeral service at Canford Crematorium, Bristol, Thursday, March 14, at 12 noon. No flowers, by request, but donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign, 16, Richmond Terrace, Clifton, Bristol.

NELSON-WRIGHT.—On March 11, at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, MADGE, aged 90 years, of 21, Braundale Court, Norwich, beloved wife of the late HENRY NELSON-WRIGHT and mother of the late Mrs Alison Hardcastle. Funeral private.

NEWCOMBE.—On March 2, suddenly at her home, MADGE (Margaret), widow of Ralph. Cremation has taken place. Donations in memory if desired to British Heart Foundation, 57, Gloucester Place, London, W.1.

NICHOLLS. — On March 9, peacefully at Ashstead, Surrey, GEORGE ANTONY, beloved husband of Evelyn, adored father of Anne and much loved grandfather of Joanna and Sarah. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium on Friday, March 15, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation.

NOBBS.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully at her home, Brookside Farm, Antrobus, Cheshire, formerly of Ilford Cottage, near Freshford, Avon, BESSIE, aged 90 years, widow of ALAN NOBBS and a very dearly loved aunt. Service at St Mark's Church, Antrobus, on Wednesday, March 13, at 11 a.m. prior to committal at Altrincham Crematorium 12 noon. Inquiries and flowers to R. Pepperdine & Sons Ltd., Alexandra House, 5, Manchester Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester 21. Tel. 061-881 5363.

ODAMTTEN.—On Jan. 16, 1985, suddenly in Accra, Ghana, Dr SOLOMON EDMUND ODAMTTEN, M.A. (Cantab), M.B., B.Chir., M.Sc. (McGill), aged 49, Head of the Ghana National Blood Transfusion Service. Funeral took place in Accra on Friday, Jan. 25. "May he rest in peace."

OGDEN.—On March 7, 1985, in an Eastbourne, Sussex, nursing home, BLANCHE OGDEN, aged 91 years. Funeral service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Tuesday, March 19, at 11 a.m.

O'HARA. — On March 11, 1985, DOM CEOLFRID, aged 69, Monk of Downside. Requiem Mass at St Edmunds, Bungay, Thursday, March 14, at 11 a.m. Funeral Downside Abbey, Saturday, March 16, at 2.30 p.m. R.I.P.

OWEN. — On March 10, 1985, peacefully at home in Folkestone, ETHEL HUGO OWEN, aged 85 years, widow of James Lumsden, Bishop, Lt. R.N.R., also of Herbert William Owen, Inspector of Taxes, dear mother, grandma and great-grandma. Will be greatly missed by all. Funeral service at Hawkinge Crematorium, Kent, on Friday, March 15, at 2 p.m. Flowers to 1, Dover Road.

OWENS.—On March 8, peacefully at Exmouth Hospital WILLIAM CHARLES (Bill), of Seymour Road, Exmouth, Devon, loving and much loved father of Dee and Kevin, treasured father-in-law of Brian and grandad of Tristan. Will be sadly missed by sister Margaret Prosser and brother-in-law Keith. Service at Exeter Crematorium, Thursday, March 14, at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Any donations to R.N.L.I., Exmouth Lifeboat, if wished.

OXLEY.—On March 8, 1985, suddenly, JULIAN, aged 28 years, dearly loved son of Janet and Derrick and brother of Matthew. Funeral at the Park Crematorium, Aldershot, on Friday, March 15, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations for Great Ormond Street Hospital and all inquiries to H. C. Patrick & Co., Farnham, Surrey. Tel. (0252) 714884.

PARKER.—On March 4, 1985, suddenly in hospital, ARTHUR JAMES PARKER, T.D., C.Eng., M.I.E.R.E., dearly beloved husband of Agnes, beloved father of Stuart and daughter-in-law Ann, adored grandad to Duncan and Jeremy. Funeral took place yesterday, Monday, March 11.

PARKER.—On March 10, peacefully in Bexhill Hospital, EDWARD beloved husband of Phyllis and brother of Douglas, dearly loved by all the family and all his friends. Cremation private. No flowers, by request.

PEARCE.—On March 10, 1985, in hospital at Tegernsee, Bavaria, KATHE CHARLOTTE (Lotti), beloved wife of Gilbert. Funeral private. No flowers, please.

POPE.—On March 8, peacefully in a nursing home following a long illness, JOYCE MARIANNE POPE, aged 77 years, formerly of Nursery Avenue, Shirley. Service at Croydon Crematorium, Thornton Road, on Friday, March 15, at 12.15 p.m.

FRANCE.—On March 9, peacefully with her family at 69, Richings Way, Iver, VALERIE, widow of G. B. S. FRANCE, O.B.E., Indian Police, dearly loved mother of George and devoted grandmother of Deborah, John and Sally. Cremation at Slough Crematorium, Friday, March 15, at 1 p.m.

PRICKETT.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully in hospital, GEORGE HENRY, aged 81 years, of 75, Willesden Avenue, Walton, Peterborough, beloved husband of Norah. Funeral service at Brookside Methodist Church, Gunthorpe, Peterborough, on Thursday, March 14, at 11 a.m. "With Christ, which is far better."

PRITCHARD.—On March 6, CELIA, beloved and devoted wife of the late Sir FRED PRITCHARD, and a much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Slindon, near Arundel, Sussex, at 11.45 a.m. on Monday, March 18, followed by cremation. Family flowers only, please, but donations to the Church Army may be sent to F. A. Holland & Son, Littlehampton, W. Sussex.

PRITCHARD.—On March 9, suddenly at home, R. W. S. (Rex), aged 85 years, husband of the late Marjorie, devoted to his family and very much loved by Judy, Roger, Christopher and Andrew.

RAKOVSZKY.—On March 8, 1985, after a long illness in hospital, MARIANNA CECILIA (Mimi) RAKOVSZKY DE NAGYRAKO ET KELEMENFALVA, in her 86th year, beloved mother of Stephen and Fruzsi. Service at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Seaford, on Thursday, March 14, at 10 a.m., followed by burial at Seaford Cemetery.

RAWLINSON.—On March 8, 1985, GEORGE RAWLINSON, M.B.E., in Whitby Hospital, and of Valley View, Sandsend, aged 79 years, husband of Catherine. One time Merchant Navy, Royal Navy and Civil Service (Sea Transport Division). To be interred at Lythe on Tuesday, March 12, at 11 a.m.

READMAN.—On March 10, 1985, peacefully, at her home in Weymouth, OLIVE PRIMROSE (nee Hill), aged 80 years, loved mother of Nesta. Funeral service at All Saints' Church, Wyke Regis, Weymouth, on Thursday, March 14, at 11 a.m., followed by cremation. Inquiries, please, to Mr N. J. P. Readman, tel. 030578 4602.

REID.—On March 10, 1985, quietly at home, JOHN. Funeral service at Christ Church, Roxeth Hill, Harrow, on Tuesday, March 19, at 12.30 p.m., followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. Family flowers only, please, but donations if desired to Mount Vernon Body Scanner Appeal, c/o T. A. Edmond & Son Ltd., 21, Bridge Street, Pinner, Middx.

RIDGWAY.—On March 10, 1985, RICHARD HENRY, Kilcolman Wild Fowl Refuge, Buttevant, Co. Cork, beloved husband of Margaret and brother of Mary and Gus. Interment in Friends Burial Ground, Waterford, on Wednesday. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Irish Lifeboats, 5, Clare Street, Dublin 2.

ROBERSON. — On March 10, at Mount Edgcumbe Hospice, St Austell, Capt. PETER ROBERSON, aged 65 years, of 16, Heligan House, Pentewan, Cornwall, devoted husband of DOROTHEA, also a dearly loved father and grandfather. Further inquiries to Mr J. Onden, tel. St Austell 73708.

ROGER. — On March 6, 1985, at home in Winchester after a courageous fight against illness, JOHN FLOYD THOMAS, devoted husband of Pat and adored father of Malcolm, beloved son of Mab and the late Alfred, loving brother of Julie and admired uncle of Andrew. Loved and respected by all who knew him. Funeral private. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Wessex Cancer Trust, c/o John Steel & Son Ltd., 6, Chesil Street, Winchester.

ROSE.—On March 8, peacefully at a Westcliff-on-Sea nursing home, HENRY GEORGE. Funeral Friday, March 15, at Sutton Road Cemetery 12.15 p.m.

SCULTHORP.—On March 6, peacefully in hospital, MOYA, in her 70th year. Inquiries to Philip Ford & Son, Stroud, Glos. Tel. 5592.

SERVICE.—On March 9, in Cheltenham, after a long illness bravely borne, MARGARET, dearly loved wife of the late HUGH SERVICE. Funeral private.

SIMON.—On March 10, 1985, peacefully at Horewood Court, Hove, ANNABELLA (nee Dixon), aged 97, dearly loved mother of Marie, and a greatly loved grandmother and great-grandmother.

SKAILES.—On March 9, in hospital, ELEANOR JOYCE, of Almington Hall, Market Drayton, Shropshire. Funeral service will be held at Hales on Thursday, March 14, at 11.30 a.m. No letters, please.

SLADE-SYMES.—On March 7, 1985, at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, NORAH SLADE-SYMES, aged 87 years. Funeral service at Haycombe Crematorium on Friday, March 15, at 2.20 p.m. Flowers, please, to E. Hooper & Son, 75, St James' Parade, Bath.

SMITH.—On March 8, peacefully in hospital, MARION SMITH, of "All Springs", 8, Dukes Brow, Blackburn, aged 78 years, only daughter of the late Mr Herbert Smith (J. E. Lambert & Co.) and Mrs Jane Smith, beloved sister of the late William Blackburn Smith and of Norman Smith.

SMITH.—On March 10, 1985, at Clare Park Clinic after a short illness, STANLEY B. SMITH, O.B.E., much beloved husband of Pat, Lower Bourne, Farnham. His integrity, wit and humour endeared him to family including nieces and nephews both related and "adopted," also friends. "Surely not in vain my substance from the common Earth was ta'en." Funeral service at St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, Farnham, on Friday, March 15, at 10.15 a.m. Cremation private. Flowers to H. C. Patrick & Co., Farnham.

STEPHENSON.—On March 11, MARY, aged 84, of Lymington.

STRACHAN.—On Sunday, March 10, peacefully in his sleep, LESLIE NORWELL, much loved husband of Pam and father of John, Simon, Susan and David. Private family cremation.

STUART.—On March 11, 1985, JOHN MITCHELL STUART, M.B., Ch.B., D.I.H., of Uplyme, Devon, peacefully at Lyme Regis Hospital, loving husband of Jerry. Cremation at Exeter Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only. No letters, please. Inquiries to A. J. Wakely & Sons, Lyme Regis 3835.

SURGENOR.—On Sunday, March 10, 1985, suddenly at his home in Belfast, WILLIAM JOHN, very deeply mourned by his wife Gerry and his children Michael, Katherine and Kevin. Deeply regretted by his sorrowing family circle.

SWAIN.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully in hospital, LEONARD, of the late Cheshire, beloved husband of the late Hilda, dear father of John and Carole, and a devoted grandfather, P.M. of the Haven Lodge No. 5710, P.Z. of the Haven Chapter. Funeral service at the Altrincham Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only, please, but donations if desired for St Ann's Hospice may be sent to Messrs John G. Ashton & Co., Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire. Tel. 061-928 7816.

TAYLOR. — On March 6, passed away peacefully at Thorpe Bay, aged 86 years, PHYLLIS MACDIE TAYLOR, M.A., F.L.S., beloved sister of Dr C. E. Taylor and aunt of David, Daniel, Christopher and Nicholas. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Southchurch, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, on Monday, March 18, 11.30 a.m. Cut flowers only to J. W. Tate & Son, 74, North Road, Westcliff-on-Sea.

THOM.—On March 8, peacefully at home, ROBERT VICTOR GILMOUR, of Tregardock, Delabole, late of Isle of Cuma, beloved husband of Mary and devoted father of Johanna and Janet.

THOMAS.—On March 8, peacefully at Brompton Hospital, HENRY (Bunny), beloved husband of Betty. Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 3.15 p.m. Flowers to E. Larner, of Putney, but if desired donations to Brompton Hospital.

TOMPKINS.—On March 10, peacefully, NELLIE (nee Newcombe), aged 90, widow of VINCENT TOMPKINS, late Royal Horse Guards, a loving mother to her family. Cremation 12 noon, March 20, South London Crematorium, Streatham.

WALDOCK. — On March 9, 1985, peacefully, ELEANOR, in her 91st year, dearly loved mother of Jean and family. Funeral service St John's Church, Shirley, on Friday, March 15, 10 a.m. Flowers to Kemkins, West Wickham, Kent.

WALKER.—On March 9, 1985, at Seighford Hall Nursing Home, JESSIE, aged 83 years, the dearly loved wife of the late DONALD WALKER, the very dear mother of Brian and Gillian, the dear mother-in-law of Vicki and Noel, and the devoted gran of Clare, Diane, Paul, Philip and Guy. Formerly of Alsagar, Stoke-on-Trent. Funeral on Thursday, March 14, at 12.30 p.m. All flowers and inquiries to the H. Dale Funeral Services Ltd, 155, Anchor Road, Sandford Hill, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. Tel. 315866.

WASS. — On March 9, 1985, her birthday, DOROTHY WASS, of Brambles, Station Lane, Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York, widow of William George Wass and much loved mother of Daphne.

WATERS.—On March 7, peacefully after a long illness, KATHLEEN MARY, late of Harrow, much loved mother of John and Dick. Funeral Shiplake Parish Church, Friday, March 15, 11.45 a.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to R.N.L.I.

WEEKS.—On March 7, 1985, suddenly in hospital, STANLEY GEORGE, of Ewell, beloved husband of Gwen, father of Pamela and Christopher. Cremation at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden, on Friday, March 15, at 1.30 p.m. No flowers, please. Donations if desired to Epsom District Hospital.

WELCH.—On March 9, 1985, WILLIAM (Bill), of Thorncliffe Close, Torquay, dearly loved husband of Edna, father of David Danby and Peter. Service at Torquay Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 11.30 a.m.

WELLS.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully in hospital, SYBIL, beloved wife of Harry, dearly loved mother of Neville and Patrick, and a devoted grandmother. Funeral service at Hastings Crematorium on Friday, March 15, at 3.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to P.D.S.A. or Injured Jockeys' Fund. No letters, please.

WESTCOTT.—On March 9, peacefully at her home, AUDREY EAMES, aged 83, of Cornerways, 2, Priory Gardens, Wellington, Somerset. Funeral service at St John's Parish Church, Wellington, 2.15 p.m., Thursday, March 14, followed by cremation at Taunton Deane Crematorium. Donations in lieu of flowers to a charity of donor's choice.

WHITE.—On March 10, peacefully in a Cheam nursing home, ELSIE MARY, aged 91, dearest mother of Charles and Doreen. Service at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden, on Monday, March 18, at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to South Carshalton Day Centre, Oaks Way, Carshalton, Surrey.

WILLETT. — On March 8, 1985, peacefully in hospital, JAMES (Jack) CECIL HUBERT WILLETT, aged 88, loving and loved husband of Margery, beloved father of Ann, Ithan and Susan, and proud grandfather of his seven grandchildren. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Thursday, March 14, at 1.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Essex Regiment Association Benevolent Fund, Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Brentwood, Essex. "I Tim iv, 7-8."

WINSLADE.—On March 10, peacefully at home in Surbiton, GERALD (Gerry), aged 81, husband of Phyl. Funeral, March 15, 12.15 p.m., St Mark's Church, Surbiton, followed by cremation. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the Friends of Kingston Hospital, Surrey.

WOOLLEY-WORLOCK.—On March 10, 1985, tragically in Argentina, MARTIN, aged seven years, beloved son of Robert and Dinah. Inquiries 01-[illegible].

WORTH.—On Thursday, March 7, at Treliske Hospital, Truro, K. VIVIAN, in her 90th year, daughter of the late R. K. Worth (Netherton & Worth, Printers), and former Mayor of Truro. Funeral service at Penmount Crematorium, on Wednesday, March 13, at 12.20 p.m. Family flowers only. Any inquiries to the funeral director, Howard Burrows, Feock, Truro 863917.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MARROQUIN, JEAN ANDRE. His Family wish to thank all the many friends for supporting him with such courage, for help, sympathy, flowers and prayers. Also the staff for their caring kindness and wisdom at the MacMillan Unit, King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, and for all donations sent to it.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DIGBY.—A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Dr MARGARET DIGBY, C.B.E., will be held at St Giles' Church, Oxford, on Wednesday, March 27, at 11 a.m.

MONCREIFFE.—A Memorial Service will be held for SIR IAIN MONCREIFFE of that Ilk, Bt., at 12 noon, on Wednesday, March 27, at the Guards Chapel.

RITCHIE.—A Memorial Service for the life of Mr J. M. (Ian) RITCHIE, late External Affairs Director, British Caledonian Airways, will be held at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, London, S.W.1., on Wednesday, March 27, 1985, commencing at noon.

WILLMER.—A Service in memory of CAROL will be held at St Stephen's Church, Clanfield, Oxford, on Saturday, March 16, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the British Red Cross, Bampton-Burford Branch, c/o the Treasurer, Mrs E. Haighton, Hill Cottage, Burford, Oxford.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

BOWEN.—There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Miss C. E. BOWEN at Headington School on Saturday, March 23, at 3 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

ATKINS, E. E. & A. F. (Sanderstead).—In treasured memory of my beloved Parents who fell asleep through Jesus on March 12, 1955 and Sept 27, 1974, respectively. "The beloved, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offences." (Ephesians 1, 6-7).

DENNEY, W. J. A. and H. M.—Remembered with love and gratitude by their Family.

DOXFORD, KATHLEEN — Treasured memories of a dear Friend. Sadly missed by all.—Poppy.

GAMBLE.—To the unfading memory of WALTER ALLISON, my Husband, who died suddenly on March 12, 1962. Remembered today and every day.—Gertrude.

GRANTHAM, JACK.—Remembering a beloved Brother.

LESTER, GEOFFREY HOWARD.—March 12, 1976. Remembered with love and sadly missed by all the Family.

SCHREIER, GUSTAV. — March 12, 1976. Remembered always with love by the Family.

TAYLOR, VIOLET.—Treasured memories and loudest love always.—Marrocks.

[illegible] on your Birthday, 1945-1975, with infinite love.—Kathleen, David and M. [illegible]

THOMAS. — In ever-loving memory of JAMES MARTIN, who died on March 11, 1978.

WRAY, BRYAN.—March 8, 1978, still loved and sadly missed after seven years, by David and Adrian.

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Yesterday in Parliament

LABOUR ANGER OVER 25 p.c. INCREASE IN CHARGES ON PRESCRIPTIONS

By ANTHONY LOOCH

THE 25 per cent. increase in prescription charges, and the increase in dental charges announced in the Commons by Mr Fowler, Social Services Secretary, brought angry shouts of "resign" from the Opposition benches yesterday.

Defending the increase, Mr FOWLER said: "If we want to see more resources going to the Health Service, then charges must make a contribution to that growth, provided exemptions policy protects those who cannot afford to pay."

Mr WILLIAM HAMILTON (Lab., Fife C.) said: "Everyone in the country can see that the National Health Service is falling apart through lack of resources, and young children and old people are dying day by day as a result."

The Government would be spending £552 million this year on defending 1,200 people in the Falklands, 8,000 miles away from Britain.

"Do not tell us at this stage that we are short of money to save life, when we are spending that sort of money to kill people," he added.

'Real increase'

Mr FOWLER denied this and said the Falklands expenditure was being used to defend people.

The Government would be spending £17½ billion on the Health Service next year, which was an increase of £500 million over the present year. This represented "a real increase" in resources of 20 per cent.

In his statement, Mr Fowler said the Government was seeking an extra £19 million of income, to help offset the cost of the drugs bill, which now stood at £1½ billion a year.

Because of the exemptions policy, almost threequarters of prescriptions were dispensed free of charge. The Government approved of this policy, and did not intend to make any change in the categories which were exempt from such charges.

"However, we do believe that those who can afford it should make a larger contribution. We have therefore decided to raise the basic prescription charge to £2."

Mr Fowler also announced increases in dental charges. He said the net effect of all the changes the Government was making to health charges would increase total income from such charges by some £40 million next year.

The changes would come into effect at the beginning of April.

Mr MICHAEL MEACHER, Shadow Social Services Secretary, said Mr Fowler's announcement had the hallmark of "the disaster of six years of Thatcherite Government of this country."

On April 25, 1979, Mrs Thatcher had said the Government had no intention of increasing prescription charges, yet there had been a series of huge increases in such charges since that year.

"This latest huge increase is five times the current rate of inflation. The sick will have to pay more in order to pave the way for even more tax handouts for the rich."

Mr Meacher complained that many people would, in future, be paying more for their prescriptions than the prescriptions had actually cost the National Health Service.

'Vicious attack'

The dental service was in a very real danger of collapsing. The new dental charges would most severely hit the worst-off and worst educated, who already had the poorest dental health.

"We believe these increased NHS charges are unjust, discriminatory and a vicious attack on some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in our society," Mr Meacher added.

Mr Meacher said a substantial number of people, paying over and above the actual market cost of drugs, would be in non-exempt categories, but would still be in low income households only slightly above the supplementary benefit poverty line.

Mr FOWLER replied that Mr Meacher must decide whether he wanted an increase in NHS resources or a cut in services. "If you want more resources, then they have to be paid for," he said.

Almost three quarters of prescriptions, and half all dental courses, were free.

During the 1979 election campaign, Mrs Thatcher had simply promised that exempt categories for prescription charges would remain, and they had.

'Not unreasonable'

Mr ROGER SIMS (C, Chislehurst) said many people would feel that a charge of £2 for a prescription, for those who could well afford it, would not be unreasonable.

He asked whether the exemption list could be widened. In reply, Mr FOWLER promised to look again at this issue.

Mr RICHARD HICKMET (C, Glanford and Scunthorpe) asked whether Mr Fowler was satisfied with the manner in which consultants were using NHS facilities for private patients in their care.

Mr FOWLER replied that this matter had already been investigated. Health authorities had been asked to report on what action they were taking to stop abuses in this area.

Mrs EDWINA CURRIE (C, Derbyshire S.) said the reaction of most people to the £2 increase would be, "ouch," but they did not have "the faintest idea" of the cost of drugs.

More exercise

She suggested that prescription charges should relate more closely to the cost of the drugs prescribed.

Mr FOWLER rejected this suggestion. He said: "The £2 prescription charge is a better way of doing it. The proportionate type of charge has been looked at in the past and rejected."

Mr TOBY JESSEL (C., Twickenham) caused laughter when he said that many people took drugs which they did not need. The health of the entire nation would be improved if people took more exercise and sleep and did not smoke.

Mr FOWLER: Those who can afford it should make a larger contribution.

Mr MEACHER: Unjust, discriminatory and vicious attack on the poor.

Mr DALE CAMPBELL-SAVOURS (Lab, Workington) asked why the increase in charges had not been announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the following week's Budget, at the same time as he announced "his reductions in capital gains tax, capital transfer tax, and tax on the higher paid."

Could the real reason be that if this had been done, the British people would have clearly seen the true nature of Government policy, which was to transfer resources from the poor to the rich?

Mr FOWLER replied that the answer was simpler than that. The announcement had been made almost exactly on the anniversary of the last announcement of an increase in NHS charges.

Mr MAXWELL MADDEN (Lab, Bradford W.) said Mr Fowler had had to make his announcement because he had lost the battle with the Treasury.

'Callous' policy

In the Lords, Lord ENNALS, former Labour Secretary for the Social Services, said it was "deplorable yet agai to tax the sick instead of spreading the burden across the bulk of tax payers."

Prescription charges under this Government had increased by 1,000 per cent.—from 20p to £2 with a steady undermining of the principles of the National Health Service.

Optical and dental charges had increased by 25 per cent. in 12 months against an inflation rate running at five per cent.

Placing this burden on those who were sick and in need of treatment was a callous, inconsiderate policy.

For many millions on modest means who were not retired or on supplementary benefit it would be a serious deterrent to using a service which they had already paid for over the years through taxation.

Over 1½ million unemployed people were not exempt from charges.

'Hypocrisy' charge

Lord GLENARTHUR, Health and Social Security Under Secretary, said that those really in need received free prescriptions accounting for 75 per cent. of the total cost—only about 20 per cent. of prescriptions were charged for.

It was hypocritical to call for mor health spending and condemn the means for raising that sort of money. Charges had to rise to meet realistically Health Service neds through the rest of the century.

Lord WALLACE of COSLANY (Lab.) said the statement was political dynamite. These were penal charges on the long-term sick.

Walker backs ban on amnesty for convicted miners

By PETER PRYKE Parliamentary Correspondent

THE National Coal Board's refusal to grant a general amnesty to miners convicted during the recent strike was supported by Mr Walker, Energy Secretary, during angry exchanges in the Commons yesterday.

Labour MPs accused the Coal Board of conducting a campaign of "vindictiveness and victimisation."

They were particularly incensed by remarks made by Mr MacGregor, its chairman, and quoted in the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, in which he said that miners were now discovering the price of insubordination and insurrection.

Mr ROY MASON (Lab. Barnsley Central) drew attention to the fact that Mr MacGregor had added: "And boy, are we going to make it stick." He said these were "the words of an angry and foolish old man."

Mr MICHAEL FOOT, former Labour leader, said that Mr MacGregor had proved himself to be as unfit to run an amnesty as he was to run the industry, and told Mr Walker: "It would be better to get him back to America as soon as possible".

'Heavy price'

While not specifically defending Mr MacGregor's remarks, Mr WALKER said that many miners were discovering the appalling damage that had been done by the totally unjustified strike.

"I am sure they have already paid a heavy price and will continue to do so."

Confirming that there would be no general amnesty, he said that the Coal Board's objective would be to look at every individual case on its merits. "If there are cases where that is not being done, they are willing to re-examine them.

"If they make any mistake on this, the power under the industrial tribunals is considerable," Mr Walker added.

Rejecting claims that the Coal Board was indulging in "vindictiveness and victimisation" he pointed out that hundreds of miners who had been convicted during the strike were back at work.

Mr ANDREW STEWART (C., Sherwood) said that the working miners should be assured of protection, and there should be no repetition of the intimidation of one of them in Wales, shown on television.

'Untenable' position

Mr WALKER replied that it was important that proper protection should be given to those who courageously, under difficult conditions, took up their right to go to work.

"It is interesting that those who asked for an amnesty for those who have committed grievous crimes also say no protection should be given to those who legally went to work."

Mr STANLEY ORME, Shadow Energy Secretary, said that the board's position was untenable. If there had been a negotiated settlement the problem could have been resolved without bitterness.

Mr WALKER said that was why he had regretted that Labour had not done far more to encourage the acceptance of the Acas settlement, and to move Mr Scargill from his "total intransigence."

'Damaging dispute'

Later Mr DAVID HUNT, Energy Secretary, rejected privatisation as a cure for the industry's ills.

He told Conservative MPs, who argued that the industry would be improved by competition, that there were no plans for privatisation, and added: "What matters for this industry is a period of consolidation and recovery from this damaging dispute."

PEER ATTACKS CARDINAL ON FUNERAL SNUB

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The failure of Cardinal Fee, Primate of All Ireland, to attend the funeral of even one of four Catholic security men recently murdered in Northern Ireland was criticised by Viscount BROOKEBOROUGH (C) in the Lords yesterday.

Commenting on the deaths of 11 security men at the hands of the I R A Lord Brookeborough said that while the cardinal condemned acts of violence, he never condemned the I R A without equivocation.

Unbelievably, with four of his own flock murdered, one of them on the steps of his own cathedral, he could not bring himself to go to the funeral service of one of them. "It is a disgrace," he said:

ROYAL ASSENT

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Royal Assent was accorded yesterday to the Brunei and Maldives Act, the Milk (Cessation of Production) Act, the New Towns and Urban Development Corporations Act, the Companies Act, the Business Names Act, the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act, the Companies Consolidation (Consequential Provisions) Act, the London Regional Transport Act and the Highland Region (Kinlochbervie) Order Confirmation Act.

LORDS PASS BILL

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The Industrial Development Bill received third reading and was passed in the Lords yesterday.

PLEA TO AID JOBLESS IN BUDGET

By WILLIAM WEEKES Parliamentary Staff

A FRESH appeal to the Chancellor to concentrate on unemployment in his Budget next Tuesday by investing in the nation's infrastructure instead of making tax cuts, was made by Mr PRESCOTT, Shadow Employment Secretary, in the Commons yesterday.

He damanded the reversal of policies which had resulted in the "highest level of unemployment this century."

Mr Prescott insisted that the process of giving top priority to reducing the numbers out of work must start when Mr Lawson outlines his proposals next week.

Government could influence the level of unemployment and had a responsibility to do so, Mr Prescott said.

The public debate on how best to use the £1½ billion the Chancellor hoped to have available for tax cuts had led to a consensus that investment in the infrastructure would do more to produce jobs.

'Badge of shame'

The level of unemployment was a "massive indictment" of Government policies over the last six years, he went on. For every month this Government had been in office, 12,000 people had been thrown on the scrap heap.

"To any normal government this would be a badge of shame but to this Government, wallowing in the belief that there is no alternative, it is simply a statement of its casualties."

Mr Prescott poured scorn on claims that 350,000 extra jobs had been created, arguing that they were only part-time jobs and had to be seen against the background of the huge fall in the number of full-time jobs—1¼ million in the manufacturing engineering indsutries alone since 1979.

Claiming that inadequate training had played a significant part in Britain's poor economic performance, he criticised employers for failing to give training sufficient priority and attacked the "sheer stupidity" of the Government for endorsing the closure of Skill centres.

"If the Government were simply to put together a package for extending the Youth Training Scheme and the community programme, it will be clear to all that it is really more concerned with fiddling the unemployment figures yet again.

Cruel deception

"If the Government really wishes to make a contribution to the reduction of unemployment, in the provision of full-time jobs rather than part-time, the answer is to put more into public sector investment."

Some national newspapers, including **The Daily Telegraph**, had produced schemes which were different but all wedded to the concept that the Government could and should use the Budget to reduce the high level o unemployment.

Mr KING, Employment Secretary, said it was a cruel deception to imply that there was a magic wand that would cure unemployment.

He again drew attention to lack of competitiveness in the past, and quoted Mr Healey as saying when he was the Labour Chancellor that the only answer to the economic problems that had dogged Britain was to improve the performance of manufacturing industry.

The Government's success in reducing inflation had been mirrored in four years of sustained growth.

'Dramatic improvement'

That, in turn, had been reflected in a significant improvement in the profits of manufacturing industry, while the past year had seen a "dramatic" improvement in investment.

Mr King aserted that more full-time jobs were now being created.

SOVIET DEBATE POSTPONED

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Tomorrow's scheduled debate in the Lords on relations with the Soviet Union has been postponed following the death of Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviet president.

In its place peers are to debate the second reading of the Representation of the People Bill which was due to have taken place today.

Today in Parliament

HOUSE OF LORDS

2.30: National Heritage (Scot.) Bill, rpt: Mineral Workings Bill, 3rd rdg: Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amdt) Order: Representation of the People Bill, 2nd rdg.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

2.30: Interception of Communications Bill, 2nd rdg: Immobilisation of Vehicles Illegally Parked (Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea) Order.

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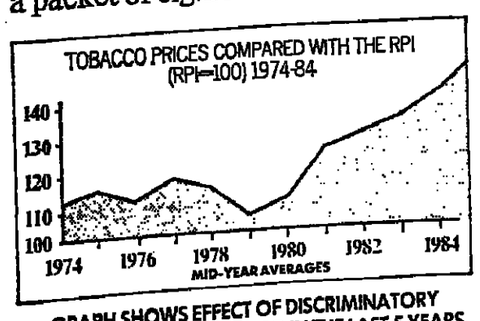
هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Why unfair tobacco taxation makes the dole queue longer

Punitive tobacco taxes are weakening the tobacco industry, have already cost thousands of jobs and are threatening thousands more.

The situation is even more critical when one considers the knock-on effect on distributive and retail trades and other suppliers. For every job in the tobacco manufacturing industry there are seven others dependent upon it, mainly in distribution and retailing. Over the years, taxes on tobacco products have made cigarettes among the most heavily taxed goods in the country. In fact, tax now accounts for 73% of the cost of a packet of cigarettes.



GRAPH SHOWS EFFECT OF DISCRIMINATORY TAX INCREASES ON TOBACCO IN THE LAST 5 YEARS.

The last five years have seen the harshest increases in cigarette taxation – which have directly contributed to the loss of 50,000 jobs in the tobacco and related industries.

Factories closing

Factories have been closed and many jobs have been lost at those which remain open.

To make matters worse, traditional centres of tobacco manufacture are in areas of already high unemployment like the North East, Bristol, South Wales, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Nottingham and Northern Ireland. All are threatened with the loss of more jobs in tobacco.

2,000 shops closed

In addition, small shopkeepers are among the worst affected by unfair tobacco taxes. Since 1979, more than 2,000 small retail tobacco businesses have closed down, with the loss of many thousands of jobs. And for every one of these small businesses which actually fail, three are in trouble.

The Prime Minister rightly makes speeches about the contribution which enterprise can make to small businesses, while the Chancellor's tax policies systematically destroy a vital business opportunity for people with independence and drive – the people who run the corner shops.

And this deprives local communities of important social services.

What the Prime Minister has to say...

"It is the spirit of enterprise that provides new jobs... And the role of Government in helping to do that? It is in cutting taxes, cutting inflation... removing obstacles to the growth of small businesses, for that is where many of the new jobs will come from – small businesses."

Mrs Thatcher, Conservative Party Conference, Brighton, 1984

Import threat

The UK taxes on cigarettes are among the highest in Europe, and *significantly* higher than those of France and Germany. Punitive tobacco taxes not only weaken our industry and make it less able to defend its markets (export as well as domestic), they also give foreign manufacturers an unfair advantage.

More on the dole?

The prognosis is clear. The British tobacco industry must not be further weakened by excessive taxation.

It already contributes almost £5 billion a year to the Exchequer.

The Government must play fair and not single out tobacco for punitive taxation. Otherwise, even more workers in the tobacco and related industries will find themselves in the dole queue.

Play fair on tobacco taxation

ISSUED BY THE TOBACCO ADVISORY COUNCIL, GLEN HOUSE, STAG PLACE, LONDON SW1E 5AG.

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The Giffard Hotel, High Street, Worcester — or — The North Stafford Hotel, Station Road, Stoke-on-Trent

on Thursday, 14th March, between 12.00 noon and 8.00 p.m., for an informal interview. A fast shortlist decision will be made, with second interviews at KeyMed House within 10 days.

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THE ARTS

THEATRE / 'Romeo and Juliet' in Paris

Taking liberties with the Bard

ENFANT TERRIBLE? The name is Daniel Mesguich. What he did to "Hamlet" eight years ago seemed enough to snuff out his career. He called his company Le Theatre du Miroir. Hence all the Princess and Ophelias and obsessive imagery of the literal and literary kind.

Then came "King Lear" at Avignon, another less obviously fractured travesty in which this young director's high intellectual spirits reached a peak of impertinence when the King was told to reduce his train and we were treated to the sounds of a steam locomotive starting up.

With his latest derivation from Shakespeare, coinciding with Bergman's magnificent "Lear," Mr Mesguich takes on "Romeo and Juliet." Or rather takes it off. That is to say, he carves up the text and interpolates haphazardly extracts from other classical writers like Rostand, Racine, Calderon, Chekhov and (of course) Shakespeare.

The upshot is a provocatively impish evening of outrageous incongruity, discarding all the tragedy's dramatic values to a point that makes you wonder why he chose the title. An innocent playgoer will find little of what Shakespeare wrote because Mr Mesguich has scrawled his own name over every scene.

Thus, we begin in a library with bookshelves up to the sky from a hanging portrait an actress flings on to the stage the dusty text, which two stray men, who are not bookish, try to make sense of. Characters appear from here and there, like ghosts, exclaiming bits of text out of context. The changes of mood and multiplicity of meanings leave those of us in search of some theatrical sense grasping at any straw.

Nor is the acting, which admittedly has small chance to build on anything, more than momentarily enjoyable. Why therefore is the large Athenee theatre, which Louis Jouvet used to run, full? Would it be full for a straight revival? Not I suspect without better acting, for which there is a taste in Paris at the tragic level.

Only the other day Michel Bouquet as the husband in Claude Chabrol's revival of Strindberg's "Dance of Death" provoked comparisons with Olivier in his eerie ability to keep us wondering fearfully what on earth he would do next. Even Olivier could not match this actor's gift for inhabiting a sinister world of his own, and intimating evil.

And at Jean-Louis Barrault's latest premises, the Rond-point on the Champs Elysees, the Japanese novelist Yuki Mishima has a modern tragedy with overtones of Greek mythology which is played with rare finesse. No one dares to drop a pin during its two unbroken hours of family tension.

Feydeau, though, meets every playgoer's taste because as the two successful revivals on the boulevards at the moment illustrate so delightfully — "Le Dindon" and "Tailleur pour Dames"—marital relations and extra relations are always with us and one knew better than this author how to make them so human in their panic-stricken folly. Let us pray Mr Mesguich is never allowed to tamper with Feydeau.

Eric Shorter

Fiona Victory (top) and Sue Cox in a scene from "The Taming of the Shrew" at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East.

RADIO / Humour's missing link

WE SEEM to have lost the gift if not the taste, for quiet comedy. Week in, week out we can hear comedies of situation and performance and competition, most of them done in front of an audience. From In One Ear, done live on Radio 4 on Saturday nights, to Listen to Les, on Radio 2 at Sunday lunch times, there is an obvious range of humorous intent and satisfaction. The more ruminative pleasures of comic adaptations, like Radio 4's current slice of Wodehouse, **Blandings** (Saturdays, repeated Mondays) to bring back a flavour of another kind of funny programme which used to be on the air more often.

Just Fancy, which for the past two weeks has been the Radio 4 Sunday "Smash of the Day," exemplifies the missing genre prefectly. Eric Barker's intimate revue, written for radio by him, performed with point and precision by him and a small permanent cast, was a series of short sketches linked by unfrantic music. One permanent feature had the Two Old Friends (Barker and Deryck Guyler) *in rambling* conversation about anything from the seasons of the year to not being able to drop off to sleep. Kenneth Connor, much more famous since this programme's days for faster, frenetic comedy, appeared in all sorts of subtler guises. The satire was social, exposing common hypocrisies with uncommon skill, slicing sections through the national humbug and always without the strident self-righteousness which mars many a joke these days.

The absence of an audience made it seem as if it were being done just for the person who heard it, a feature which also enhanced one of the shows which followed "Just Fancy" and which one day we may also hear in this slot, **Lines From My Grandfather's Forehead.** Meanwhile, next week, it will be back to broader comedy and recorded laughter with **Life With The Lyons.**

Radio drama is never done in front of an audience these days. Perhaps this is what gives a good murder more bite on the wireless than in most other places.

Peter Whalley's **Neighbourhood Watch** (Saturday-Night Theatre, Radio 4), was as neat a study of manners and motivations as even Miss Marple might wish, except she would have had a different reaction to why Roy, first suspected of murder then cleared, was found digging his garden at the end. It began with Roy's wife being missing, went on to show how more than one of the neighbours might have had as much motive to do away with her as he did, and was played throughout with the re-direction of our attention to each of the six characters in turn. It was produced by Robert Cooper with steely glee and performed with taut finesse.

Gillian Reynolds

MUSIC / Handel's 'Amadigi'

WHATEVER other justification there may be for the existence of the B B C, one must certainly be the opera policy current on Radio 3. Following the completion of its comprehensive Verdi series, the station last night presented the first in a group of eight Handel operas to be given in celebration of the composer's tercentenary.

"Amadigi," a work dating from early in Handel's London career (1715), proves something of a revelation, at least in a performance produced by Clive Bennett and conducted by Roger Norrington, that came near to some sort of ideal in authentic Handelian interpretation.

It is the second of the composer's magic operas: set in Gaul, the scheming sorceress, Melissa, tries to entice the lovely Oriana away from the hero of the title, while Oriana is also desired by Dardanus, Prince of Thrace.

Although there are only these four main characters and they are all sung by women (the hero originally by a castrato) Handel avoids monotony through his ability to give their emotions expression in a succession of astonishingly varied numbers all suited to the situation in hand. Amadis's aria alternating *apresto* section for anger with an *adagio* for sorrow, the following, heroic piece for Oriana, dropped after the first performance and not heard since, and Melissa's outburst of triumph close the superb Second Act in a blaze of striking invention.

Just as arresting is Melissa's death scene, a solemn Sarabande enclosing a lamenting arioso. Handel is able here to show as much sympathy for the baddies as he does for the goodies. All through, Melissa's frustrations are as aptly delineated as the simple happiness of Oriana, whose *largo* in B flat "Oh caro mio tesor" is possibly the opera's most sensuously delightful aria.

The recitative boldly describes actions and feelings, particularly when it is as dramatically treated as here by Mr Norrington, whose choice of tempi seemed as apt as his well-marked rhythms and the fresh articulation of the London Baroque Players.

All four ladies cultivated a vibrato-less tone. In the cases of Eirian James as Amadis, the sound tended to be a shade uningratiating but her accomplished divisions were a pleasure to hear. As Oriana, Patrisia Kwella was even more successful in negotiating the entirely appropriate and never exaggerated decorations in the *da capos* and her singing, by turns plaintive and joyful, was sweet and sensitive. Rachel Yakar's voice formed a suitable contrast; she made a gleeful, then tragic, Melissa. Anne Mason's firm *mezzo* did much with Dardanus's plainer music and with her unexpected appearance as a ghost in Act 3, another stroke of genius from Handel.

Alan Blyth

TELEVISION / Eurekaargh!

Inventing pitfalls

ROBIN BOOTLE cannot have had much time lately for Shakespeare's "Macbeth." With money so short all B B C producers know that in programmes: "If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly." They may not penetrate further into this soliloquy and the wise caution that "we but teach bloody instructions, which being taught, return, to plague the inventor."

An oversight which led Bootle to build his Eurekaaargh! (BBC-2), last night's "Horizon" report for and about inventors, on what the publicity called "ten golden guidelines," instructions which hung about the proceedings with mildly irritating insistence.

As an encouragement bewhiskered presenter Robert Symes was discovered in the Jersey tax haven, accompanied by cheerful music, in company with the Cadillac-driving Ron Hickman. Millionaire Ron was the man who not only created the much favoured D I Y tool called the Workmate, but knew how to protect his invention against all copiers.

Most private inventors are less successful, Symes disclosed. There may be no need for what they do, they may be insufficiently original, they may be challenging strong vested interests, they may not know enough about the patent system and so on.

The film did tell of new facilities like the "innovation centres" being installed in industrial cities and this was perhaps an informative help to some who work away in garages and front rooms to find some modern equivalent of the discovery of the wheel. They may even have felt inspired by the last of the instructions: "Persevere." Though I doubt if many real non-perseverers will have been much changed by this 50 minutes

I doubt also if the Tristram Powell tribute to Karen Blixen, **From an Immigrant's Notebook** (B B C-2) in the "Arena" slot, will have brought her many new admirers.

Blixen, starting as a 29-year-old from a wealthy Danish family, lived in Kenya from 1913 to 1931. Though she returned to Denmark for her last three decades her heart and her muse apparently stayed in Africa. As Isak Dinesen she became recognised, specially in the United States, as a great story teller.

With Eileen Atkins to read from her lyrical "Out of Africa" before a misted lens, some handsome nature pictures, and the general air of reverence, fans must have felt caressed. As an outsider I was made sympathetic about her misfortune in love, including syphilis passed on by her husband.

Finally a word of congratulation to what I suppose should be regarded as a deadly rival, **Did You See . . ?** (B B C-2), which deserved its B A F T A award last week. It is presently having its sharpest season, often producing clips from the week's television I wished I had seen first, and with increasingly dry comment from Ludovic Kennedy. His guests are still infuriating at times, as they were this week on "The Last Place on Earth," but he is ever quicker to stamp on the boring. When he is away with 'flu his deputies make his skill obvious.

Sean Day-Lewis

Music Projects/London, Bernas

FOLLOWING last month's examination of trends in recent Japanese composition, Music Projects/London has now turned its characteristically inquiring ear to a subject nearer home. For a pair of concerts at the **Almeida Theatre**, the conductor Richard Bernas has devised programmes of contemporary French music and on Sunday night attention was chiefly focused on four works by Pascal Dusapin.

All of them were here receiving their first British performances and all of them were played and sung with a commitment and demonstrative force that served to underline the essential aggression of their musical language.

In "L'Homme aux Liens," Dusapin sets the Latin text by Lucretius tracing the beginnings of insanity, its gradually tightening, increasingly frightening grip and its eventual release of the victim into a world of visionary inner awareness. Musically, however, Dusapin concentrates almost exclusively on a vocal and instrumental definition of the early stages of this process, the disturbed, even manic cries and gulps of two sopranos and the feverish activity of three violins relentlessly describing the physical and mental convulsions of the disordered mind.

Divine reawakening and spiritual consolation here gets very short shrift and in fact it was this preoccupation with overworked untamed freneticism which proved not so much an invigorating feature of Dusapin's music as an enervating one. Energy is one thing, but the loosely harnessed, weakly directed energy of "If" for clarinet "Incisa" for cello and "Musique Captive" for brass and woodwind undermined the potential power of works which began with good ideas and made resourceful demands on instrumental technique.

Just how pointedly emphatic gestures, rhythmic verve and instrumental colour can be controlled and manipulated was emphasised by Xenakis's "Khalperr" for brass and percussion, but Michael Levinas's languid "Arsis et Thesis" for bass flute failed to generate much interest over and above the intriguing technical problems of playing it.

Geoffrey Norris

I Musici consolidate reputation

THE UNASSAILABLE reputation which the Italian chamber group I Musici has earned and consolidated over the past 30 years or so was further reinforced by its concert of Barouque and Classical music at the Festival Hall on Sunday afternoon.

Even the list of instruments on which these 12 musicians play reads like a "Debretts" of string-manufacture, including as it does such names as Stradivarious, Goffriller, Guarnieri and Guadagnini; but, if the instruments themselves are of illustrious provenance, the playing too is of an equallly impressive quiet dignity and aristocratic refinement.

The music of the Italian Baroque has always been central to I Musici's repertory, and here in the G major Concerto for two violins, two cellos, strings and continuo by Vivaldi and in the F major Concerto with violin obbligato Op. 11 No. 5 by his almost exact contemporary Francesco Bonporti, the group brought to its readings a crystalline clarity of texture and as closely integrated an ensemble as you could hope to hear.

But any I Musici performance goes much further than that, for the years of working closely together have engendered in the group an intimacy and unerring instinctiveness of playing, an assurance unmarred by complacency, an exquisite craftsmanship without a hint of precosity.

These supreme qualities were no less in evidence in the second half, in the spirited, airy Mozart Divertimento and in Bach's G minor Harpsichord Concerto, given with liquid fluency by Maria Teresa Garatti.

And in Boccherini's B flat major Cello Concerto — here stripped of its Grützmacher adornments—the tone of Vito Paternoster's cello (like mulled wine: mellow, but with an intoxicating kick to it) was eloquently complemented by the light, breathy orchestral accompaniment.

G.N.

ART / A walk through a French village

A VISIT to the exhibition devoted to Martin-Jules Chouard at **Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox,** Bury Street, St James, until March 29 is like walking through a little French town or village.

Chouard has indeed, in inimitable fashion, caught the atmosphere of such places. It is hardly surprising, for he was a schoolmaster in the Seine et Marne Department. We have no other facts about him, except that he was born in 1859 and died in 1919.

After looking at this exhibition, though, we do know much about the little towns and the individual buildings he paints. One cannot be certain, but I suspect none of them ever existed, but simply grew in the artist's mind as a result of the loving observation of detail. That he was an amateur is clear. His drawing is sometimes defective, but even this failing which in another might be irritating, is with him charming and he has that passionate concern for the things that interest him which is the saving grace of so many Sunday painters. Thus he paints every stone in an old wall with a loving attention and almost obsessive detail.

What does not interest him is man. Only once in these 43 water colours does a figure appear and it is badly drawn. Fruit on the other hand fascinated Chouard so much so that we did not need the basket of apples the gallery has placed under one of his paintings of the same subject. It is though a charming touch perfectly in keeping with an exhibition which lightens the spirit.

Over the winter Douanier Rousseau Exhibition, which has been in Paris at the Grand Palais and is now in New York, at the Museum of Modern Art, until June 4, has been drawing the crowds. It is not difficult to visualise a time when Chouard does the same.

Terence Mullaly

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17XL 485612
16YT 078520
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AL 178

COURT AND SOCIAL

Court Circular

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, March 11.

The Queen this afternoon attended the Commonwealth Day Observance Service in Westminster Abbey and was received by the Dean of Westminster and the Chairman of the Royal Over-Seas League and Deputy Chairman of the Joint Commonwealth Societies' Council (Sir David Scott).

Her Majesty was later present at a Reception given by the Commonwealth Secretary-General (His Excellency Mr Shridath Ramphal) at Marlborough House.

The Duchess of Grafton, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE, March 11.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron of the London College of Music, was present this afternoon at a College Concert at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London W1.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the City and Guilds of London Institute, will present the 1985 Prince Philip Medal to Mr B. Down at Buckingham Palace on May 8.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a reception given by the Courtauld Institute of Fine Art Fund at Somerset House, on May 2.

The funeral service for the Marquess of Bristol will be held privately today for family only in Monte Carlo. A memorial service will be held at Ickworth Church at a later date.

A memorial service for Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Q.C., will be held on March 27 in the Guards Chapel at noon.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Mr David Croll, Q C, is 85 today; Mr Tommy Farr is 71; Miss Googie Withers 68; Mr Peter Dunn 61; the Hon. Roland Moyle 57; Sir Antony Acland 55; and Mr Rudolph Agnew 51.

Forthcoming Marriages

Mr N. A. C. Higham and Miss U. de Nemeskeri-Kiss

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Rear-Admiral and Mrs Philip Higham, of Apple Tree Farm, Prinsted, Emsworth, and Ursula, daughter of Count and Countess de Nemeskeri-Kiss, of Riverdale, New York.

Mr T. M. Parr and Miss A. E. Binnie

The engagement is announced between Thomas Michael, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T. D. Parr, of Disley, Cheshire, and Anne Elaine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. A. Binnie, of Dagenham, Essex.

Mr G. R. Sumption and Miss A. M. Henriques

The engagement is announced between Gideon, younger son of the late Mr W. A. Sumption and of Mrs Peter Dobrée, of Holcombe Court, Holcombe Rogus, Devon, and Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Q. Henriques, of Purdis Hall, near Ipswich, Suffolk.

Mr C. W. K. Beresford and Miss S. A. Kelly

The engagement is announced between Craig, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. C. Beresford, of Swindon, Wiltshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W. E. Kelly, of Ashtead, Surrey.

LUNCHEONS

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Sir Robin Vanderfelt, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and Lady Vanderfelt gave a buffet luncheon yesterday at 7 Old Palace Yard in honour of visiting students from Bermuda, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey, and other guests in London to celebrate Commonwealth Day.

Farmers' Company

The Master, Mr C. T. Muddiman, assisted by the Senior Warden, Mr D. G. Pearce, and the Junior Warden, Mr T. W. Kemsley, presided at a court luncheon of the Farmers' Company held yesterday at Innholders' Hall.

MEETINGS

British Tunisian Society

The Tunisian Ambassador introduced the speakers, Mr Francis Ghiles, Mr George Joffe and Mr Alex Kirby, who spoke on "Tunisia and the Maghreb," at a meeting of the British-Tunisian Society held last night in the Grand Committee Room, House of Commons. Mr Ted Leadbitter, M P, Chairman of the Parliamentary Anglo-Tunisian Group, was the host and chairman.

Royal Over-Seas League

Mr Robert Mellish, Deputy Chairman, London Docklands Development Corporation, was guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last evening at Over-Seas House, St James's. His subject was "What Progress has been made in the Docklands Scheme?" Miss Madge Gill presided.

FACULTY OF ANAESTHETISTS

Prof. J. W. Dundee, of Belfast, has been re-elected and Prof. J. Norman, of Southampton, Dr J. Lumley, of London, and Dr F. R. Ellis, of Leeds, have been elected to the Board of the Faculty of Anaesthetists.

RODEAN SCHOOL

Roedean School has made the following awards for 1985:

Junior Awards: Laila Michalcuks, St Bede's, Eastbourne, Leadership Academic Scholarship; Cassia Campbell, Connor House. Danch H. Academic and Music Scholarship: Emma Williams, Roedean, Academic Scholarship: Alexandra Hughes-Wilson, St Andrew's, Eastbourne, Academic Exhibition; Olivia Hum, Northbridge House, London, Academic Exhibition. Sixth Form: Sophia Borthwick, Sunderland Church High School, Music Scholarship: Catherine Edwards, St Mary's, Colchester, Art Scholarship; Caroline Pudney, Roedean, Music Scholarship: Simone Bendern, Roedean, Art Exhibition: Angeline Burne, Roedean, Art Exhibition: Rose Gunston, Roedean, Art Exhibition.

IN MEMORIAM

The Hon. Mrs de Bellaigue

A memorial service for the Hon. Mrs Sylvia de Bellaigue was held yesterday at Chelsea Old Church. The Rev. William Gibbs and the Rev. Leighton Thomson took part. Lord Rodney (brother) read the lesson. Among those present were:

Mr Eric de Bellaigue (husband), Mr Nicholas de Bellaigue and Mr Christopher de Bellaigue (sons), Mrs W. Ladd (mother-in-law), Lady Rodney (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Geoffrey de Bellaigue (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), the Hon. George Rodney, the Hon. Anne Rodney, Mr Peter Rodney Mr and Mrs John Rodney, Mrs Roger Williams. Viscount and Viscountess Combermere, the Rt Rev. H. R. and the Hon. Mrs Gough, Lord and Lady Fernham, Lord and Lady Swansea, Mr Julian Amery, M.P., and Lady Catherine Amery, the Hon. Mrs James Drummond, the Hon. Mrs Jesson, the Hon. Mrs Humphreys, the Rt Rev. H. R. and the Hon. Mrs the Hon. Lady de Zulueta, the Hon. Mrs D. de Laszlo, Lady Baker Wilbraham, Lady Leathwade, Lady Garner, Mrs Michael Wall, Baroness de Gerlache, Mr David Gibbs, Mr and Mrs Simon Strong, Mr R. M. Spencer, representing Wellesley House School, Broadstairs, Mr and Mrs Henry Hely-Hutchinson, Mr and Mrs Michael Ewes, Mrs David Sutherland, and other friends.

TODAY'S EVENTS

THE QUEEN holds an Investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11.

Princess Anne, Master of the Worshipful Company of Farriers, attends lunch given by Wardens of the Company at Guildhall Club; as Hon. Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Carmen attends Livery Banquet at Mansion House.

Queen's Life Guard mounts, Horse Guard, 11; Queen's Guard mounts, Buckingham Palace, 11.30.

British Museum: Patsy Vanags "The Greek drinking party," 11.30; "Egypt in the Roman world," 1.15.

Victoria & Albert Museum: Sarah Bowles "Topographical watercolours," 1.15.

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins "The female nude: Bronzino and Velazquez," 1.

Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, Prof. Stuart Hall: Ian Gulland Memorial Lecture, 7 p.m.

Chelsea Antiques Fair, Chelsea Old Town Hall, SW3, 11-7.30.

St Margaret Pattens, Eastcheap: Rev. Neville Cryer—"People with Problems—Mordecai, with Race," 1.10.

St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square: Eileen Broster piano recital, 1.05.

TOMORROW'S EVENTS

Princess Anne visits National Heart Hospital, Westmoreland St, W.1, 10.30; as Chancellor of University of London, attends Presentation Ceremony at Royal Albert Hall, 2.

Queen's Life Guard mounts, Horse Guards, 11.

British Museum: Paul Goldman, "British landscape watercolours, Constable," 11.30; Richard Tames, "Making of 'The Mikado' (first performance March 1885)," 1.15.

Museum of London: Celina Fox, "William Hogarth's London," 1.10.

National Gallery: Sarah Staniforth, "Science and the Conservation of Paintings," 1.

Theatres, Cinemas—Page 27

DINNER

Anglo-American Sporting Club

The Anglo-American Sporting Club held a boxing dinner evening last night at the Hotel Piccadilly, Manchester. Mr Neil Midgley was the guest of honour. Mr Ken Dagnall presided and the other speakers were Mr Peter Willis, Mr John Mancell and Mr Kenneth Wolstenholme, Secretary of the Club.

COMMONWEALTH SERVICE

The Queen was present at the Commonwealth Day observance service held yesterday in Westminster Abbey. The Prime Minister was represented by Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council. The leader of the Opposition, Mr Neil Kinnock, M P, was present. The Leader of the Liberal Party was represented by Mr Alan Beith, M P, and the Leader of the Social Democratic Party by Earl Attlee.

The Dean of Westminster, the Very Rev. Edward Carpenter, officiated and readings were given by the High Commissioners for Sierra Leone, Mauritius and Sri-Lanka and by the First Secretary, Brunei High Commission. The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland was represented by the Rev. D. F. M. Macdonald. The Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council was present. The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster was represented by the Rt Rev. Thomas McMahon, and the Chief Rabbi by Rabbi C. K. Harris.

Representatives of the Sikh, Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu and Islamic faiths also took part in the service. Representatives of the Greek Orthodox Church and of the Salvation Army were also in the procession.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress of Westminster, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth and Mrs Ramphal were present.

FURNITURE MAKERS' COMPANY

The following have been elected officers of the Furniture Makers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr D. B. Ercolani; Senior Warden, Mr K. S. Wrighton; and Junior Warden, Mr J. D. Radford. The Clerk is Mr G. Benbow.

Art Sales

£12,500 FOR COOPER MINIATURE

By Our Arts Correspondent

A 17TH CENTURY miniature of a Dutch nobleman by Alexander Cooper fetched £12,500 in an auction at Sotheby's.

Another miniature, of a young man, by Matthew Snelling, a relatively unknown 17th century artist, signed and dated 1653, went for £8,000. Both well exceeded their estimates.

A miniature by Isaac Oliver of Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales, dating from about 1610, made £5,800.

French fan

A Duvelleroy fan of 1869, decorated by watercolourist Antoine Jean-Etienne Faivre (1830-1905) fetched £3,000, three times its estimate in the same auction.

A French mother of pearl fan dating from about 1860 and decorated by the artist A. Solde (1822-1895) made £2,400, twice its estimate. And an Italian fan of about 1795 bearing a view of the auditorium of the Royal Theatre, Turin, went for £1,050.

A mid-18th century Jacobite fan with its silvered paper leaf painted with the image of Prince Charles Edward, "The Young Pretender," fetched £780.

SURREY BRIDGE

By Our Bridge Corresondent

The final of the Surrey County Bridge Association Pairs Championship was played in Croydon on Sunday. Of the 222 pairs originally entered, the following five qualified for the final of the inter-county pairs championship for the Couwer Trophy:

1 J. Hitchcock and R. McMurray 582 mp; 2 I. A. N. Swinnen and A. Lunn 555 mp; 3 R. J. Rowlands and Mrs A. Flood 551 mp; 4 S. Sloan and A. Webber 524 mp; 5 R. Allan and G. Davison 496 mp.

Sir Peter Hall and the Earl of Gowrie face to face before yesterday's Press conference.

HOUSES TO COST 10pc MORE

By IAN BOYNE

INTEREST in house buying was seasonally slack during January and February but, with the onset of Spring demand for home loans, it now looks like picking up leading to most estimates of at least a 10 per cent. rise in house prices by the end of the year.

Last week the Halifax, Britain's biggest building society, claimed that the annual price rise fell in February to 9·1 per cent.

Although last month's increase in mortgage rates and the expectation of another rise after the Budget may hold back demand slightly, most market observers believe that by the end of the year prices should show a steady increase.

Figures released last week by Mr David Gilchrist, general manager of the Halifax, that a forecast of a 10 per cent. rise this year had been downgraded to eight per cent., were in contrast to the Woolwich, which believes prices will rise by between 12-15 per cent.

According to the Woolwich, last year's annual increase averaged out throughout the country showed a nine per cent. rise—with a difference of 14 per cent. in London and the South East.

As a general guide to current prices nationwide, the Woolwich figures below show the regional variations on a post war three-bedroomed semi - detached house.

Croydon—lower price £48,000; upper price £70,000: Middlesborough £20,500-£23,500; Leeds £21,000-£30,000; Manchester £25,000-£34,000; Birmingham £25,000 - £30,000; Norwich £26,000 - £29,000; Brighton £44,000-£57,000; Bristol £26,000-£32,000; Cardiff £28,000-£38,000; Glasgow £33,000-£36,000.

Hall and Gowrie forget differences for a day

By KEITH NURSE Arts Correspondent

SIR PETER HALL, director of the National Theatre, and the Earl of Gowrie, Arts Minister, shared the same platform at a London Press conference yesterday for the announcement of £22,500 private sponsorship to enable the National's foyer music programme to continue for a year.

The two men have been at odds recently over the issue of arts funding.

The music programme was one of the cuts announced last month by Sir Peter because the National will be short of £1,100,000 in the coming financial year.

A foundation established by the partners of Arthur Andersen and Co., a leading firm of accountants will provide the £22,500 and the Minister's Office of Arts and Libraries will contribute a further £7,500 for the programme under its one-to-three grant-matching project to stimulate arts sponsorship.

During the polite platform exchanges, Lord Gowrie said: "Here is an instance where sponsorship is not just abridge between business and the arts but between Minister of the Arts and great National Theatre directors. I enormously welcome that."

"We are trying to give the seignal that Government support for the arts is plateauing.

"We accept thhe arguments of people like Peter Hall that mor eresources are needed, but the proof of our commitment and sincerity is our ability to go out into other areas to try to generate that additional support."

Sir ePter, expressing gratitude for the aid, said: "I hope, very much, Minister, that when we come next year with our begging bowls we shall not be given £30,000 less.

"I hope, also, that I can look forward to ayear when I don't have to have some 33 meetings such as this, pleasant though they may be, in order to make up our deficit."

Radio 4's young look

By ROBIN STRINGER TV & Radio Correspondent

TWO experimental programmes for younger listeners are to be introduced by B B C Radio 4.

First will be a three-hour show drawing on existing material and hence called "Pirates of Radio 4," which will be broadcast for a trial period on three consecutive Thursday mornings in July.

Next, but not until Easter next year, will come two three-hour programmes for five to nine-year-olds.

Since the demise of "Children's Hour" in 1961, the B B C has made various attempts to capture the imagination of the young radio audiences with Radio 4 programmes like "Fourth Dimension" from 1972-75 and "Dial a Scientist" from 1971-76, and with Radio 3's "Pied Piper" presented by David Munrow from 1971 until his death in 1976.

The size of the lobby for children's radio programmes may be judged by the uproar two years ago which greeted the replacement of the traditional 15-minute "Listen With Mother" by the five-minute "Listening Corner".

WAY OF THE WORLD

Is this a Record?

WHO (writes Soviet Affairs Expert MARSHALL BOLSTER) is likely to succeed Chernenko as Soviet President? The extraordinarily short periods in office of the last two Presidents (Chernenko clocked up only 13 months, while his predecessor Andropov, with 15 months, did little better) suggest that the top men in the U S S R may be trying to establish some kind of world record.

We are bound to ask ourselves why they should want to do this. Is it for the sake of the record itself; or a reflection of their own basic insecurity; or is their purpose to bewilder the West by a continuous series of ailing, short-lived Presidents?

Who will succeed Chernenko? At 75, Mr Gromyko would seem the obvious choice. But far from ailing, he seems to enjoy robust health and a staying power (he looks much younger than his age) unique among Soviet statesmen.

Mr Grishin is tipped as successor. But at 70, is he old enough? And is he ill enough? Mr Gorbachev, a mere 56 and obviously quite healthy, is surely out of the running. So is Mr Romanov, 62.

My own hunch is that the top men in the Kremlin will offer the Presidency to Mr Molotov, now retired, who was 90 the other day. They will be taking a risk, of course. There can be no certainty that "Old Stone Bottom," as Stalin used to call him, will oblige by dying within a few months.

He might live to be 100. In that case there would be a lot of red faces in the Kremlin.

Heroine

"DESPITE what such people as Mrs Victoria Gillick think, promiscuity per se does not signal anything dark about the future of mankind." croaks a woman writer, Julie Burchill, in the SUNDAY TIMES.

She drags in Mrs Gillick again, later on in her strident, opinionated article. It is worth noting that Mrs Gillick has now become a statutory female hate-figure among "permissive" people, gradually taking over from Mrs Whitehouse, who must now be near retirement.

In some ways Mrs Gillick is even more suitable than Mrs Whitehouse for this essential role. As a Catholic with ten children, personable, intelligent and fearless, capable of deliberate provocation such as openly referring to "sex education rubbish" as though all reasonable people must agree with her (as, of course, they do), she is an even greater challenge to the embattled hosts of the sex industry, their allies and apologists.

She is a true heroine of our time, well able, I should think, to deal with all the abuse which is hurled at her now and will be hurled in greater and greater quantities in future. If she should ever feel she is weakening (unlikely), let her remember one of William Blake's excellent proverbs: "Listen to the fool's reproach; it is a kingly title."

Down the Mineshaft

"THAT'S best get thi skates on!" Mr Shuttleworth, the poultry farmer and part-time literary agent, Julian Birdbath's nearest neighbour, bawled down the shaft of Deadwater Lead Mine (disused), near Bakewell, to the luckless author toiling away on No. 3 Level at his life of Stephen Spender, while his pet toad and only friend, Amiel, shuffled round his rusting typewriter, hoping for a titbit of old typewriter-ribbon.

Aye," went on the kindly Shuttleworth, "they say that Lord Spender is going to bring out his own memoirs soon. So if that doesn't want to be left high and dry—heh, heh, that's a good one, is that—tha'd best shift a bit and get in first. Just a friendly word of advice, like."

"Thank you so much, Shuttleworth," Birdbath shouted back in what he meant to be a loud, grating, sarcastic tone. But it came out as a shrill fluting sound, echoing strangely round the dripping, statectite-infested walls.

"And by the way . . ." But Mr Shuttleworth had gone, clanking his hen-food bucket triumphantly. In any case, what was the use of telling him for the fiftieth time that Stephen Spender had only been knighted by a grateful country, not made a Life Peer for his services to literature?

But Mr Shuttleworth's remarks had gone home. Birdbath returned to his labours with a heart heavier than before. Listlessly he pressed the waterlogged keys. Where had he got to? ". . . in this poem of his late period, when Spender's existential, even entological, staglamitic dampness . . ."

What on earth was he going on about? "A subjective element . . ." His head was drooping over the machine as he passed into a confused half-sleep while the famished Amiel began nibbling at the corner of his typescript, relishing the rich flavour of the carbon paper.

Genre Painting

A REPORT in the CAMBRIDGE EVENING NEWS describes the retirement of a man who served a local firm for 50 years. He joined it at the age of 15 and at first "worked as an envelope adjuster."

This occupation will be new to most people. In this case, obviously, it was entirely blameless. Yet the term "envelope adjuster" has darker associations.

One of my never-to-be-painted genre paintings, already present to the mind's eye and hanging in its dusty gilt frame on the wall of the seldom-visited Alderman Marsden-Smith Bequest Room in the Soup Hales Municipal Art Gallery, is a small canvas, executed in thick impasto, with brown and purple the predominant colours, called "The Old Envelope Adjuster."

The central figure is an old village postmistress, sitting by a big, old-fashioned, black-leaded kitchen-range with a big old tabby cat purring by her side and a kettle steaming on the hob.

It is clear from the slightly cunning and even malicious look on the old postmistress's face and from the envelope she is holding ready for adjustment that the purpose of the kettle is not to make tea.

On a low table by her side is a pile of envelopes she has already adjusted so skilfully that although they may have their suspicions those who receive them after they have been adjusted will never know for certain that they are not the first to read the letters enclosed.

The old envelope-adjuster's head is full of secrets. She knows much more about the villagers' private lives than any single one of the villagers. But she never makes the mistake of revealing their secrets wholesale. A hint here and there is more her style.

Will she ever be exposed? Is that a face trying to peer through the small bottle-glass window into the darkened room? Who knows? "The Old Envelope Adjuster" is a problem picture.

Peter Simple

Obituary

MARQUESS OF BRISTOL

THE Marquess of Bristol, who has died aged 69, had been a tax exile in Monte Carlo since he left his ancestral home in March, 1979.

He was a self-confessed eccentric who as a young man was a Mayfair playboy and a gun runner to the forces of Gen. Franco in the Spanish Civil War.

His aim in leaving Britain was to start ventures to earn himself some money "without the bloodsucking taxmen breathing down my neck."

Victor Frederick Cochrane Hervey, the sixth marquess, succeeded his father in 1960. He was educated at Eton and the Royal Military College.

He owned estates in Suffolk, Lincolnshire, and Essex, but had to face heavy death duties when he succeeded to the title.

He became a tenant in his own 18th century house at Ickworth, near Bury St. Edmunds, which, together with nearly 2,000 acres, was accepted by the Treasury to cover estate duty.

Three marriages

Lord Bristol had several clashes with authority. Mr Richard Crossman, as Housing Minister, vetoed his plan to build houses for 600 yachtsmen on 75 acres at Shotley, Suffolk.

But eventually he was given permission for a smaller scheme covering 120 houses on 30 acres. He became president of the National Yacht Harbour Association.

Lord Bristol was married three times. His first marriage, to Pauline Mary Bolton in 1949, was dissolved in 1959. His second to Lady Anne Juliet Wentworth Fitzwilliam in 1960 was dissolved in 1972.

He married again, in 1974, to Yvonne Marie Sutton. The heir is his son by the first marriage, Earl Jermyn, aged 30.

UNA VENNING

Una Venning, who has died aged 92, was an actress whose career spanned more than 50 years. Born at Bedford, she studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and made her stage debut when 18, in 1911 in "The Flag Lieutenant" at the Theatre Royal, Ipswich.

She appeared in a wide range of roles at most West End theatres, and in America and Ireland. For many years she was permanent understudy to Gladys Cooper at the Playhouse and St James'. Her last West End appearance was in Noel Coward's "Waiting In the Wings" in 1960.

She was one of the pioneers of television drama before the 1939-45 War and appeared in many B B C television and radio plays subsequently.

She married twice, to Malcolm Cherry, the actor, who died in 1924 and to Gordon Hamilton Gay, who died in 1975.

Dr PETER GAY

Dr Peter Gay, who has died aged 57, was Vice-Master of Downing College, Cambridge, and university lecturer in earth sciences. He was internationally known as a mineralogist and crystallographer, publishing many scientific papers on the applications of X-ray techniques in mineralogy.

He made key contributions to the understanding of the crystal structure of the feldspars, the commonest rock-forming minerals.

His two text books, "The Crystalline State" and "An Introduction to Crystal Optics," have long been standard works. He was a Fellow of Downing College from 1959 and senior tutor from 1966 to 1971. He became Vice-Master in 1982.

Brig. William Dinsdale Anderton. In Jersey aged 95. Commissioned, Royal Army Medical Corps 1915, served 1914-18 War, France, Belgium, Balkans, M C 1918; served 1939-45 War Malta, West Africa, British Army of Liberation. Deputy Director Medical Services, Malta 1947-49, retired 1949.

Mary, Lady Graham. At Longtown, Cumbria. Widow of Sir Fergus Graham, fifth baronet and former Conservative M P, whom she married 1918 and who died 1978. She was Mary Spencer Revell, daughter of Maj.-Gen. Raymond Northland Revell Reader. C B E 1953.

Latest Wills

BAILLIE, Mrs Mary E., Melton Mowbray, Leics	Net £159,234
BERESFORD, Mrs Elsie, Almondsbury, West Yorks	215,257
CREESE-PARSONS, J. B. R. C., Cerrigydrudion, Clwyd	370,871
FRANKLIN, R. S., Solihull, West Midlands	212,128
HUNT, R. G., Wibtoft, Warwickshire	294,365
OXMAN, P. K., Aynho, Northants	441,555
PADFIELD, Mrs Doris E., Nyewood, West Sussex	261,716
PARSONS, Mrs Florence M., Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey	664,286
TURNER, Mrs Mary O. S., Bexhill	295,039
WALKER, Mrs Winifred M., Winshill, Staffs	256,708
WILDE, Mrs Lilian D., Bognor Regis	326,300

NEW ROVERS GET IMPROVED SUSPENSION

By Our Motoring Correspondent

An improved range of small Rover saloons, with better handling and more power, is launched today. Still based on the small Honda, but with Austin Rover's own 1·6 litre engine, they have had their rear suspension re-tuned to give a smoother ride, particularly on undulating surfaces, following criticisms of the original car's behaviour in fast driving.

A new top model in the range, called the 216 Vitesse, is said to be capable of 112 m.p.h., with 0-60 m.p.h. in just over nine seconds. It is powered by a 103 b.h.p. version of Austin Rover 1600 c.c. "S" series engine with electronic fuel injection, and has aerodynamic spoilers and stiffened suspension. Prices range from £5,907 for the basic 213 to £7,899 for the 216 Vitesse.

PERSONAL

Private £5 per line. Charity appeals £4 per line. Trade £9·50 per line.

THE Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him: He also will hear their cry, and will save them. Psalm 145, vv. 18-19.

THANKS to Sacred Heart and St Jude for prayers answered—B.W.

S.H., ST JUDE, grateful thanks.—P.

DEAR MUM. Happy Birthday from the Boss, Uncle, Irish and Miss Patch.

SOPHIE WEBB is one today—Hooray.

ERNEST W. K. HEWITT, 80 today.

AR.—Hlbkn. Never needed you more. Plse write.—ART.

H.—I remember. Someday my love. Have faith. 1 John 4:7.

A.—Towering memories still. Love.—J.

C.—I'll see you in my dreams.—M.

ST JUDE, thanks for William, anything for me?—M.

LEAVE THE GIFT OF HOPE. It doesn't take much to leave a donation in your will to Help the Aged. But it can help stop the torture of loneliness and isolation among the old at home. It can give back sight. It can even save lives in third world countries. Every pound you leave can do so much. And give the gift of hope to people who desperately need it. Please write today for more information to the Hon. Treasurer, The Rt Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Project 50178, FREEPOST, London EC1B 1BD.

PORTUGAL. A beautiful wine country. Broch. from Abreu Wine Tours, 109, Westbourne Grove, W.2. 01-229 9905.

££ WANTED, lge wardrobes and all Victorian and Edwardian furniture. 01-946 7683 day. 01-789 0471 evgs.

TICKETS FOR CATS. Starlight. Wimbledon & all sports 01-951 0936.

ALISON Baby grand piano 4ft 9, beautiful tone. £800. Tel. 0732 354956.

GOSS CHINA wtd. by collector.—Write GC16348, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

ROUND WORLD £769, NZ £749, H.K. £462 rtn.—Columbus, 85, London Wall, E.C.2.—01-638 1101.

TENERIFE. Simply superb beach apts. quiet location. 1st class 747 flight incl. 2 wks from £199 per person.—01-247 1982. ATOL 370.

FLIGHTS. — Jo'burg, Australia, N.Z., Canada.—Epsom 26097/25213.

DRISCOLL HOUSE HOTEL. 200 single rms. £55 p.w. partial board. Apply 172 New Kent Rd, London, S.E.1. 01-703 4175.

THE MARRIAGE BUREAU (Heather Jenner), 124, New Bond St, W.1. 01-629 9634 Nationwide interviewers.

LAST YEAR our 11 Marie Curie homes and our nationwide Marie Curie domiciliary nurses cared for nearly 10,000 seriously ill cancer patients. Sadly the need for our help increases daily. Your generous support to ensure the continuation of this vital humanitarian work will be gratefully received at the Appeals Office, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, 28, Belgrave Mews South, London SW1X 8BW.

BOWLERS, TOPPERS, dresswear, etc. bought. J. B. & P., 20, Pembridge Rd, Ldn, W11 3HL. 01-229 0862.

BRIDGE. — Private lessons, practical classes.—G. C. H. Fox, 61 Pont St, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. 584 2244.

WANTED. Film star signed photos. Rochdale 47936.

OPORTO. 1 bedroom apartment available for long or short let. Fully furnished and equipped. Phone 0427-610082.

BURRELL COLLECTION expert guide, part of tour from London. Details 01-550 2499 (2-8 p.m.).

PETITES VACANCES value for money Short Hotel Breaks during Mar/Apl in Normandy, Paris, etc. Self-drive 2-5 days. VACANCES, tel.0799 24823.

VICTORIAN CARVED OAK 10ft extending table, £1,250. Old pine 7ft table, £230. Carved oak bookcase and other items. Move forces sale. Tel. 0373 63348.

RETIRED? YOUR KNOW-HOW IS NEEDED?

Charities and voluntary organisations urgently need help from retired men and women with business, professional and administration skills.

REACH (Retired Executives Action Clearing House) brings together the people who can give help and the people who need it. Nationwide and without charge.

If you are willing to work full- or part-time, expenses only, for a worthwhile cause, please get in touch with

REACH, Victoria House, DT Southampton Row, London, WC1B 4DH. Telephone 01-404 0940. A Registered Charity No. 278837.

SPARE US A FEW SECONDS!

It costs MRA £3 million a year to provide new Sheltered Housing and extra places in existing residential Homes for the growing family of elderly people in our care. That's £1 every 15 seconds! We depend on voluntary giving, year in, year out. Please help.

METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED, Epworth House, 25/35 City Rd, London EC1Y 1DR.

HEART DISEASE

is Britain's biggest killer. Help the charity that funds the research.

Please send donations to: 102, Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

The heart research charity.

ATTACK CANCER

We are leading the fight against Cancer, but we need your help. Please send your donations today to: Room 5L, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX. IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

CANCER TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CANCER

You can help us beat cancer sooner by making a legacy or sending a donation to Britain's largest supporter of cancer research.

Cancer Research Campaign, Dept. DT 12/3, 2, Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AR.

AUTHORS

Have you written a book you would like published. If so write to Dept. DT6/1, The Book Guild Ltd, 25 High Street, Lewes, E. Sussex, BN7 2LU.

OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS A G M and Dinner at the College March 29. Tickets from V. N. Bromage.

PERFECT STUDIO, CHELSEA, by river, superb gdn view, ftd kit, cpts, bathrm: £38,000 o.n.o. 01-876 2818.

ROLEX PRINCE WATCHES wanted. Gold £1,000, silver £500, steel £350. Also old Rolex oysters in gold, silver, steel. Mr Yates, 327 Coppice Rd, Arnold, Notts. 0602 203441.

CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP by Orient Express, Thursday, 14th March, from Victoria, £155 incl. entrance, champagne dinner on return journey. Access / Barclaycard / Diners. Tel. Reservations, 0793 92944 or 01-244 1903. Patrick Business Travel Ltd (A B T A), 25, Havelock Street, Swindon, SN1 1SD.

CASH PAID. Large wardrobes, sideboards, pianos, chairs, tables. Most pre-40s furniture bought. We pay high prices. Be sure to contact us before selling. Immediate attention, any distance. Mr Harley, 01-960 2060 or write: Harley Antiques, 251 Harrow Rd, London, N.W.10.

ANTIQUE PRINTS. Hants collector seeks talented colourists. Write A.P.16464, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

FRENCHMAN BUTCHER, 36, seeks work to learn English 6 to 12 months. Mr Fontan, 3 Rue Jean Andrieu, 31500 Toulouse, France.

AIGUBRAVA. Lux. villa, slps 9. 5/ pool, c/maid, odn., avail. to June 28 and Sept. 01-250 0020 day-time.

POGGENPOHL — reception/bar and 7 display kitchens avail. at ½ price, large selection of quality appliances 30% off. Watford (0923) 50334.

BILLIARD TABLE. Finest old mahogany full size, fully restored. Open offers.—01-940 1152.

LARGE old paintings wtd. 01-948 8542.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF THE BEVERAGE TRADING COMPANY LIMITED formerly BROMPTON WINE COMPANY and G. & C. HOWARD LIMITED. Court No. 007150 of 1984. Nature of Business: Wholesale & retail wine merchants. Winding-up Order made 14th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock. J. L. P. POPE, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 IN THE MATTER OF SMITH'S (WEST LONDON) LIMITED. Court No. 006084 of 1983. Nature of Business: Distributors and wholesalers of step-ladders. Winding-up Order made 22nd January 1985. Date and place of first meetings:—Creditors 25th March 1985, at Room G20 Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories on the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock, A. K. SALES, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 IN THE MATTER OF H. B. DISPLAY LIMITED. Court No. 007162 of 1984 Nature of Business: Display work. Winding-up Order made 14th January 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 25th March 1985 at Room G20 Atlantic House Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock. R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 IN THE MATTER OF CARTBROOK LIMITED. Court No. 007421 of 1984. Nature of business: Dealers in Clothes. Winding-up Order made 21st January 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 25th March, 1985, at Room G20 Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 2.00 o'clock. Contributories on the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock, R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF CASANOVA LIMITED. Court No. 007532 of 1984. Nature of Business: Retailer of Menswear. Winding-up Order made: 21st January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings:—Creditors: 25th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD, at 2.00 o'clock. Contributories: On the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock. J. A. SELL, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF ONAGLEN LIMITED, T/A BLITZ HYGIENE SERVICE. Court No. 007217 of 1984. Nature of Business: Hotel and office cleaning contractors. Winding-up Order made 14th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings:—Creditors: 25th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD, at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories: On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock. R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF AIR 81 LIMITED. Court No. 007136 of 1984. Nature of Business: Freight forwarders. Winding-up Order made 14th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings:—Creditors: 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD. at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories: On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock, J. A. SELL, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF D & T CLEANING CONTRACTORS LIMITED. Court No. 007315 of 1984. Nature of Business: Commercial Cleaners. Winding-up Order made 14th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: — Creditors: 25th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories: On the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock, R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 IN THE MATTER OF GLADESTYLE LIMITED Court No. 007193 of 1984. Nature of Business: Clothing designers. Winding-up Order made 14th January 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct London EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories on the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock, J. L. P. POPE, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF PATRICK FINN AND SONS LIMITED. Court No. 007500 of 1984. Nature of Business: Builders. Winding-up Order made 21st January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories On the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock. J. A. SELL, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF MELLORVIEW LIMITED t/a ROCKY'S WINE BAR. Court No. 007502 of 1984. Nature of Business: Night Club operators. Winding-up Order made 21st January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories On the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock. R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF LEIGHMONT PROPERTY AND INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED. Court No. 007312 of 1984. Nature of Business: Property Dealers. Winding-up Order made 11th February, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 25th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 2.00 o'clock. Contributories On the same day and at the same place at 2.30 o'clock. J. L. P. POPE, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF FROXY DAY LIMITED Court No 007637 of 1984. Nature of Business: Dressmakers. Winding-up Order made 28th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 3.00 o'clock. Contributories. On the same day and at the same place at 3.30 o'clock. R. G. L. HOWARD, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF FASHION LIMITED, formerly HERSHELLE LIMITED. Court No 005042 of 1984. Nature of Business: Dress Manufacturers. Winding-up Order made 14th January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 25th March, 1985, at Room G20 Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London. EC1N 2HD at 11.00 o'clock. Contributories. On the same day and at the same place at 11.30 o'clock. J. A. SELL, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF EPIKEEP LIMITED. Court No. 007237 of 1984. Nature of Business: Restaurateurs. Winding-up Order made 21st January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 25th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD at 10.00 o'clock. Contributories. On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 o'clock. J. L. P. POPE, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. IN THE MATTER OF FAVKARN LIMITED. Court No 007386 of 1984. Nature of Business: Builders. Winding-up Order made 21st January, 1985. Date and place of first meetings: Creditors 26th March, 1985, at Room G20, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1N 2HD, at 3.00 o'clock. Contributories. On the same day and at the same place at 3.30 o'clock. J. A. SELL, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS. A SPECIAL GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ on THURSDAY, 11th APRIL 1985 AT 11.00 a.m. R. K. HIND, Secretary of the Institution, 31 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AG.

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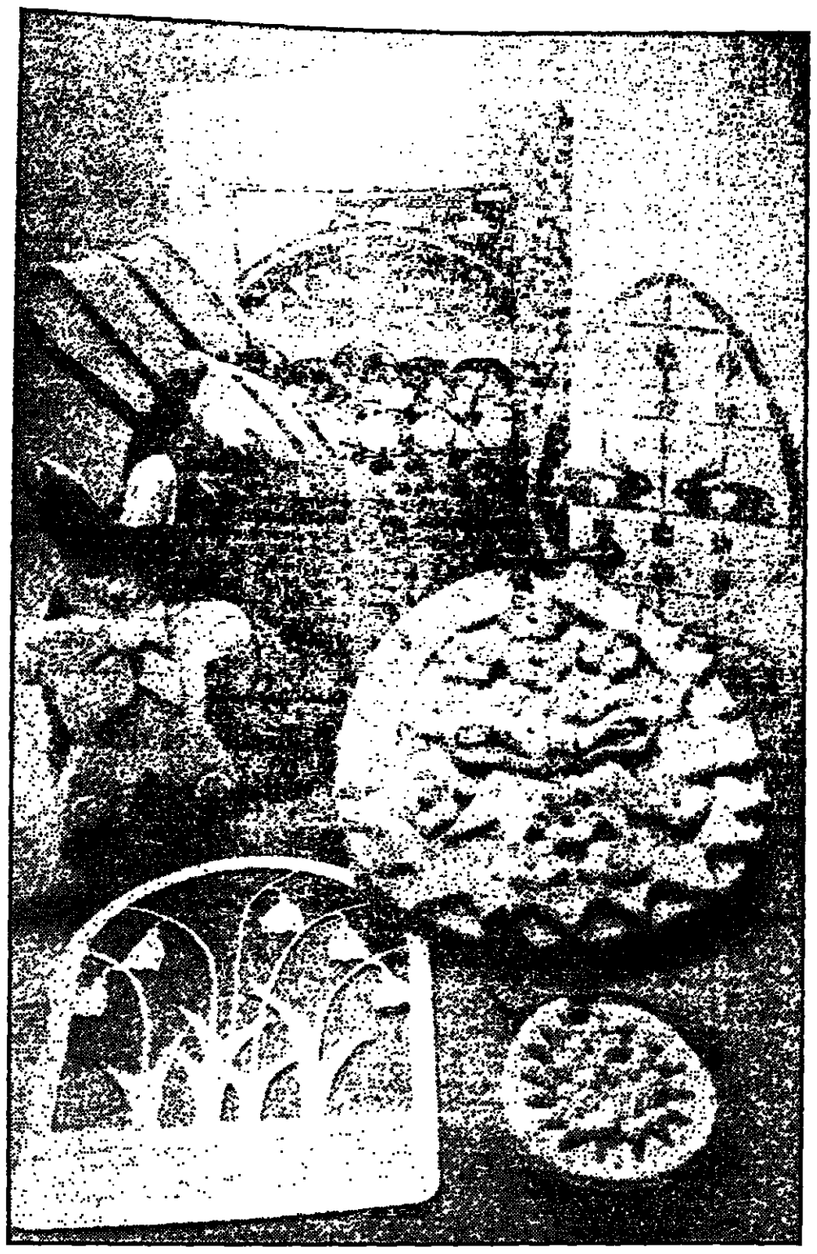
TURNING THE TABLES. THE POTTER WITH A SMOOTH APPROACH TO CUTLERY

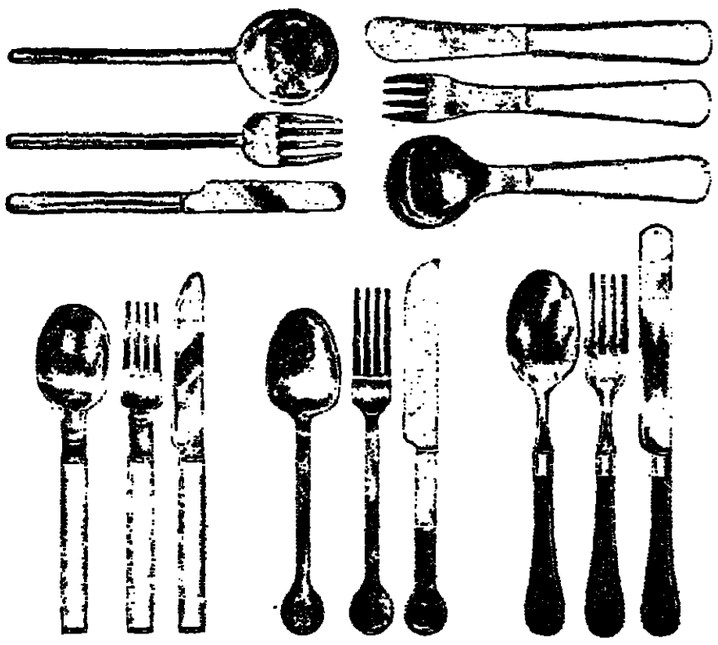
THE EASTER ALTERNATIVES

Sketch by Paul Korn



THE shops always seem full of fluffy yellow chicks and egg-shaped boxes at Easter. For those who prefer something simpler to give as a small present, there are alternatives. The range of Danish cut-out cards and mobiles by Prik Klip are a pretty idea to send by post, while the everlasting dough sculptures are a more permanent souvenir than a chocolate egg.

IN THE PICTURE (by PAUL ARMIGER): centre top, from Athena's range of cards illustrated by Jean Yarwood, Chicks Chorus, 65p, from all branches of W. H. Smith. Clockwise, from top right, rabbit mobile by Prik Klip, £1·85, which also makes the cut-out card (bottom left) £1·85, both from Scribbler, 27 Sloane Square, London, S.W.1. and 29 James Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2. Large glazed egg-shaped, flower-decorated everlasting egg, £7·25, from The General Trading Company, London, S.W.1.; smaller egg, £1·25, and the rabbit, £2·95, available from G T C at end of week; bright red plastic rabbit money box (which waggles its ears when a 10p piece is put in) £2·99 by Kiddicraft, from selected W. H. Smith branches.



● Above, from top left, clockwise: sharply-designed Old Dutch stainless steel cutlery with round handles. Knife £5·35, fork £5·20 and soup spoon £5·20, by Courtier Cutlery from Heal's and Liberty, London and Courtier shops in-store throughout the country. Lotus stainless steel cutlery with cream acrylic handles, designed by David Mellor. Knife £3·75, fork £3·60 and soup spoon £3·60, from Heal's. Bistro cutlery with gently curving handles in blue, burgundy, pink or, soon, ivory. Knife £2·35, fork £1·65 and dessert spoon £1·85, from all branches of the John Lewis Partnership. Hoffman cutlery in stainless steel by David Mellor has a characteristic flattened disc end. Knife £7·20, fork £6·50 and dessert spoon £5·70, from David Mellor, 26 James Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.; 4 Sloane Square, London, S.W.1.; Manchester and Sheffield. Elegant Boda Nova stainless steel cutlery with cream acrylic handles. Table knife and fork, both £5·50 each, dessert spoon £5·20, from Line of Scandinavia, 91 Regent Street, London, W.1. and Heal's.

Sharpening up design

THE modern movement in cutlery has been increasingly successful in recent years—though often we get the cutlery we deserve and it is not surprising that some of our most talented designers are more appreciated abroad than they are at home.

David Hilton, who started out as a potter, has an appreciative and growing export market in America for his ceramic-handled cutlery and co-ordinating pottery.

One of his major stockists is the prestigious New York department store, Henry Bendel.

I first encountered David Hilton's smooth cutlery and design-related plates, bowls and dishes at a British Crafts Centre Christmas exhibition in 1982. That was the time when he identified strongly with the crafts.

Now he is a craftsman designer and has moved on to cater for a larger market. His work is an effective mixture of the hand- and machine-made. The functional parts of his cutlery are produced by six different manufacturers. But the ceramic handles that give his work such individuality and style are made by hand in his Wandsworth, London, workshop.

Establishing himself as a designer of cutlery and its co-ordinating pottery was not easy. First he had to be accepted in the closed ranks of the old-established cutlery trade.

He remembers his struggles to become accepted three years ago. "Big companies were going to the wall at that time. Cutlery was in the doldrums with everyone concerned about the future.

"There were small islands of interesting work being done in modern cutlery but most was imported. The only designs I did like were those of David Mellor and Nicholas John.

"My acceptance by the established cutlers was gradual. I got to know one or two people such as Ron West, who was managing director of George Butler for 40 years.

"He took a great interest in my idea of linking the design of cutlery to pottery and advised me to join the Cutlery and Silverware Association of Great Britain.

"The handles are basically square, octagonal or round and the hand-painted patterns tend to be geometric, although one is close to being flowery."

Apart from his range of cutlery and pottery, David Hilton does a lot of private commissions. Private customers often go direct to him to order cutlery and co-ordinating dinner services.

Sets of cutlery for six would cost from £50 to £100 for the 24-piece set according to pattern and quality.

His cutlery and pottery are widely available, generally from the small specialist shop rather than the department store. Cheese tiles and knives, salad bowls and servers, butter dishes and knives and his attractive cutlery can also be bought on Tuesdays, when he has a market stall at the Apple Market in London's Covent Garden. He is at The Jubilee Market in Covent Garden on Saturdays.

One of his most satisfying export orders goes to the Hanyu store in Osaka. "It is nice," reflects Mr Hilton, "to send pots to Japan for a change."

● David Hilton, above, in his Wandsworth, south-west London, workshop. On the work-top are some pieces from his extensive range of cutlery and pottery including, foreground, the pottery design called Stripes. Left: he combines stripes and plains for the pencil pot, paperweight and paper knife, £5·50 each. Back centre, cheese plate and striped knife, £14; back right, quiche or cake plate and server, £19·50 the set; cake knife, £7. Centre front, jam pot and striped spoon, £9·50; front right, plate with butter knife, £9. Stockists include Solution, 27 Cathedral Place, St Paul's, London, E.C.4.; Breeds the Cutlers, 27 The Mall, Bromley, Kent, and 37 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent; Leeds City Art Gallery, The Design and Craft Shop, The Headrow, Leeds; P. R. Cowdy Crafts, 28 Main Street, Hillsborough, County Down, Northern Ireland. Mail order details from David Hilton Cutlery, Unit 230, Wandsworth Business Centre, 86 Garratt Lane, London, S.W.18. (Please enclose a stamped, addressed 9in by 4in envelope for brochure and price list.)

BY ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

Putting interior ideas into focus

THE furniture of the 1950s is an under-exposed subject: a fact which Cara Greenberg, in her book "Mid-Century Modern" attempts to put right.

Mass-market furniture was the expression of the decade that launched Charles Eames's famous shell chair made of glass fibre and resin, Eero Saarinen's pedestal chairs for Knoll and Arne Jacobsen's egg chair, made of a plastic shell.

The author is an American who was not impressed by furniture design in this country during the period under discussion.

But it wasn't so elsewhere in the world and her book (Thames and Hudson, £18), takes a look at some of the best of 1950s' interior ideas. A grey artist's palette table combines well with a flecked, pink, low-backed sofa; Verner Panton's glass-fibre reinforced polyester chair is a flowing red streak that, unfortunately, cracked when it was sat on too often.

"The English Room" by Derry Moore and Michael Pick (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £12·95) looks at furniture of all kinds. Ideal for interior voyeurs, it lets us peer into the places inhabited by all kinds of people.

Royal Lodge, the Windsor house of the Queen Mother, is characteristically cosy in the grand manner. The interiors of Nymans, the house in the famous gardens begun by Ludwig Messel in the 1890s, is charmingly faded in the country-grand manner. Comfortable old armchairs on the point of needing a new cover, worn but still beautiful carpets, frilly chintz curtains and tapestry cushions have always been part of the English tradition.

Otherwise we can peep into the homes of Nigel Nicolson, Sir Sacheverell Sitwell and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire's private apartments at Chatsworth. In all, 48 homes which are well worth studying.

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THE RED CROSS

When it's summer in the basement...

From MOYRA BEESTON in Philadelphia

AMERICANS consider it the equivalent of the Chelsea Flower Show: the annual Philadelphia Flower Show, held in the huge basement of their civic centre every March.

You leave the rain and sleet of the bleak, wintry Philadelphia streets, take a short escalator ride and suddenly it's summer—a five-acre stretch of a wild confusion of flowers, all in perfect bloom.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society arranges the show, "the biggest in the States," according to Jane Pepper, the society's president, and incidentally a native-born Scot.

The theme this year is "A Touch of Britain," a heritage which locals say goes back to their founding father, William Penn. The Quakers brought over with them their English techniques. Early English settlers had their seeds and grafts for fruit trees and, although the emphasis was on vegetables and herbs, they had their rose gardens and early-flowering spring bulbs as well.

Exhibitors in the main hall have gone to town this year with their "British Connection," from formal Elizabethan gardens with their borders of English boxwood, much-prized in American gardens, to an English country garden, complete with its Cotswold cottage, and a Mad Hatter's Tea Party including the Cheshire Cat, all created out of foliage.

The winners of this year's prize for the best garden, the Wilkinson Sword Award, was a local landscape gardener, Charlie Gale and his son Chuck. They have been exhibiting here for the past 15 years and have specialised in perennials for the past 10.

"We're the only ones dizzy enough to do it," Charlie Gale told me. "It costs $40,000 to mount this show," he added. They were responsible for the Elizabethan gardens at the entrance to the show, and beyond had installed stone arches covered in pink rambling roses, banked by 5ft-high delphiniums with hollyhocks, shasta daisies, veronicas, spirea, iris and petunia.

To show spring and summer flowers in winter is a complicated and costly affair. They start, the Gales told me, a year in advance. Perennials well established, of two years' growth, are put in a refrigerated container for eight weeks, some time in October. They are kept there at 38 degrees to hasten their dormancy period.

This is followed by a complicated schedule for weekly fertilisers, light and temperature requirements.

A generator pumps out carbon dioxide to stimulate summer air conditions and a high-pressure sodium vapour lamp gives them 18 hours of light a day. "We fool them into thinking they are basking in high summer," his son said.

These preparations only skim the surface of what is needed to produce the perfect specimens on show at their exhibit.

This year at the flower show quite a contingent of British "gardeners" was invited over: Robin Herbert, president of the Royal Agricultural Society; Rosemary Verey, the author of many books on gardening, and several students from the Norrist Wood Agricultural College in Surrey. They won the Croft Original Trophy last year for the best garden at the Chelsea show, and were invited over to co-operate with a local college to produce an English garden.

Sheila MacQueen came to give demonstration lectures on flower arrangements, one of the most popular sections of the show, with over 1,800 entrants.

The flower show in Philadelphia is obviously quite different from Chelsea. The mild climate makes it possible to plant directly into the soil for the Chelsea show in May. All the plants shown in Philadelphia have been forced.

"What happens to all those beautiful plants after the show?" I asked Chuck Gale. "We might save some with a lot more fussing, but they're all out of schedule," he replied. "We just throw most of them away."

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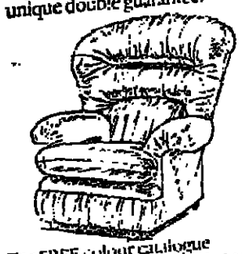

For FREE colour catalogue write: Monmouth Chair Co Ltd, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4ER or phone 0600 4555 any time.

WHAT'S NEW

TAPS WITHOUT TROUBLE

A NEW D I Y tap system is said to be easy to install. The single-hole kitchen mixer tap is made in chrome, white or a soft brown. It has a high, branching neck with swivel spout, quarter turn on/off and is installed by pushing on the self-sealing unions, connecting and tightening the flexible tails.

The basin mixer tap has a single hand operation with one lever regulating temperature and flow from the swivel spout.

Taps are washerless, there are Teflon-coated seals and stainless steel valves to resist calcification. Tapkits, made by Berglen, cost £45 and are available from branches of Homebase and Makro.

☐ If you want a shower and space is limited in the bathroom then the Slimline shower range by Heatrae Sadia is among the slimmest units available.

These can be fitted above the bath or in a shower cubicle and are now being made in a new soft white with pale grey control panels and pastel logo.

The on/off panel is touched to start or stop the shower, and there is an economy facility whereby the unit can be run at half-power if you want a cooler shower or, in summer, when the water is warmer.

An alarm light indicates when the water is overheated, as it might be with a blocked handset, and there is an illuminated digital read-out to make temperature selection easy. Slimline showers cost from £72.

☐ Arranging flowers in a natural way is what we all strive for and Fast Flowers, which claims to be London's first flower supermarket, is making it easier with pre-arranged flowers that can be placed directly into the vase without fussing.

Flowers that include a new range of silver-treated carnations—one up, I suppose, on the blue variety—cost from £6 and are delivered free locally.

Open seven days a week at 25 Vanston Place, London, S.W.6., 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fast Flowers sells one stem or will arrange flowers in the traditional fashion if you wish.

☐ The Everything for Home Cooking mail order catalogue from Lakeland Plastics contains lots of new things to simplify home cooking. There are asparagus steamers, cast-iron scales, cooked meat press and griddle plates for things like crêpes and drop-scones which are suitable for use on gas or electric cookers. Lakeland Plastics has shops in Windermere and Chester and the catalogue is available from Alexandra Buildings, Windermere, Cumbria LA23 1BQ.

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1985

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THREE IN 30 MONTHS

THE ELECTION of Mr KONSTANTIN CHERNENKO as Soviet President and Communist party general secretary just over a year ago was seen at the time as a victory for the conservative Kremlin septuagenarians, and it was widely forecast that he would be very much a transitional, or stop-gap, leader. So it has proved. Only a few months after stepping into Mr ANDROPOV's shoes, he was looking decidedly frail and missing critical appointments. Yet he hung on to office, propped up by the same ridiculous rigmarole of lies and official silence associated with Mr ANDROPOV on his deathbed.

It has again been something of a wasted year for the Soviet Union. As a safety-first choice, Mr CHERNENKO has managed to be the least effective Soviet leader of the six since the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, as well as being the oldest man elected to the top posts. We will never, alas, know why the Kremlin feels it so necessary to guide the country towards the last decade of the 20th century with a Politburo, or Cabinet, with an average age of 68. Perhaps it is because the country has no tradition of honoured retirement for politicians, and of course no elections that could turn them out of office. But the truth, one suspects, is that the remnant of the Old Guard in the Kremlin is prepared to defend its power, and consequently its privileges and perks, to the last ditch. With Mr BREZHNEV and Mr CHERNENKOV, and even Mr ANDROPOV, it has been a case of opting for old men to grow older.

The Kremlin's kitchen Cabinet has wasted little time in deciding the succession and getting the ostensibly policy-making Central Committee to approve it. Months ago conventional wisdom in the West had Mr MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, 54, virtually home and dry as Russia's next ruler. This time the geriatric mould appears to have been broken, and that the old gang have had a good think about the effects of age on what was once a leader-dominated political system. Yet someone else suitably aged and experienced could still become President. Mr GORBACHEV, however, is not unintelligent and it should mean "business as usual" with the West. But it would be foolish to think he will be any mellower, or any more reasonable, towards the West than others running Russia. Nothing he has said or done so far suggests the system has thrown up a reformer bent on reorganising the economy, allowing dissidence, or ending the genocide in Afghanistan.

EYES RIGHT IN FRANCE

ONE THING IS CERTAIN after the first round in France's current bout of local elections: M. JEAN-MARIE LE PEN and his National Front are no flash in the pan. With over 8 per cent. of the poll, the extreme Right has re-emerged as a significant force in French politics. The roly-poly former parachute officer was in his element on television afterwards. The Communists refused to sit down with him. The Socialists were there "only to refute his lies." Even a "respectable" Conservative like M. LECANUET showed embarrassment at this truculent vote-snatcher whose frankly racist, chauvinistic appeal has lured support from Left and Right and who does not hesitate to tell Left-wing bishops to mind their own, pastoral business.

With just over 49 per cent., the orthodox Opposition cannot be too sure of winning next year's general elections outright without help from M. LE PEN'S electors. In next Sunday's run-offs there will be several departments—including the Var (Toulon), Bouches Du Rhone (Marseilles), Seine-St Denis (North of Paris) and Eastern Pyrenees (Perpignan)—where the Front will call the tune. Its biggest successes are in urban areas with large immigrant populations. At the national level, M. LE PEN'S candidates will not get any official support from the "decent" Right. But ultimately the decision whether to help them defeat Socialists or Communists will be in local hands.

There are two possible interpretations: the extremists (Communists and National Front) together polled about 20 per cent., leaving 80 per cent. unevenly distributed among the so-called parties of Government—the Socialists, the Neo-Gaullists' Rassemblement (RPR) and the Centre-Right Union for French Democracy (UDF). This is seen, mostly by Left-wingers, as a sign of a shift into a new political pattern out of which President MITTERRAND, by switching to proportional representation and with a bit of Socialist luck, could concoct the sort of majority he could live with until 1988. Against such wishful thinking should be set the possibility that the swing is now so strong that even tinkering with the system can no longer prevent the election of a Right-wing majority next year.

INTERESTS TO DECLARE

THE ANNUAL PUBLICATION of the Register of MPs Interests is an occasion to complain that Parliament is not what it was. In place of the stalwart independents of the days of yore we are said to have a House of Commons backed with placemen who have sold their voices and their votes to vested interests to supplement their wages. No matter that their predecessors of 200 years ago were frequently beholden to borough-mongers who could, and did, "deselect" them at a hint of disobedience; no matter that members of the Labour party have, from its inception, owed allegience to trade unions, overriding obligations to those who have selected them; no matter that the Register is spattered with acknowledgements to such sinister influences as the Territorial Army. The spread of the blight of "consultancy" is deemed to place our liberties in peril.

Such fears are largely misdirected. It is desirable that their colleagues and the public should be aware when MPs are speaking to a brief. But it has always been an obligation to reveal it (and whatever the rules may say, the insistence of the Register serves to diminish and not to enhance that obligation). Here is the natural consequence of the growing patronage of modern government.

The real hazard to the economy of Parliament lies elsewhere. It comes from the growing sophistication of the special interest groups which have discovered that the surer route to corralling votes in Parliament lies not through members' pockets but through member grassroots. The MP who is too naive to know that there is no such thing as a free lunch is in the wrong profession. But the MP confronted by an orchestrated outcry from 200 mousetrap makers or flat-earthers needs a stout heart to recall that he or she has several hundred times that number of electors who do not necessarily share the same priorities. The Register of MPs' interests may be a quarry for the curious. It tells us nothing about the real pressures on the modern Member.

ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI argues that a defence strategy against nuclear weapons is both possible and desirable

Instead of destruction . . .

ON this page yesterday a former U S Defence Secretary argued that the American Strategic Defence Initiative—a big factor in this week's Geneva arms talks—is not practical. Today one of his ex-colleagues puts the other view.

PRESIDENT Reagan has sparked a useful debate. It revolves around a question that cries for careful evaluation; what kind of strategic environment is most likely to provide the greatest degree of stability and security for the two nuclear super-Powers—and their allies—in the context of dynamic changes in weapons technology?

It needs to be added rather hastily that this question should not be answered in the abstract but rather in practical and attainable terms, focusing on what is possible either through direct accommodation with the Soviet Union or through unilateral United States actions.

This key point should be borne in mind in reflecting on the above: changes in weapons technology are making the American-Soviet strategic relationship increasingly more precarious. Throughout much of the seventies both super-Powers were rather like old-fashioned duellists armed with primitive *pistols pointed at each others* chests at 20 feet apart: each knew that the other could still fire back, even if hit first. The existing nuclear arsenals of both Powers were relatively primitive and essentially designed to inflict large-scale damage, no matter who fired first. The doctrine of Mutual Assured Destruction (M A D) was born *in that context.*

★

THIS condition of mutual vulnerability is now becoming more unstable. Qualitative improvements in nuclear arms are transforming the nature of the duel into one in which the side that fires first might in fact be able to inflict decisive and disarming damage on the other. Greater crisis instability, including the temptation to strike pre-emptively, is another negative feature of this situation.

Nuclear weapons are becoming incredibly precise and thus potentially useful in a disarming first strike, not aimed at populations but at the opponent's command centres and strategic forces. Moreover, one should not be overconfident that means for the effective detection of underwater nuclear systems will not be discovered in the foreseeable future. The combination of existing vulnerability to a first strike at command centres and strategic forces deployed on the ground, and the potential danger of effective underwater detection of nuclear systems requires all concerned to give urgent and serious thought to the question underlying the Strategic Defence Initiative debate.

There are only three ways of resolving this problem in a satisfactory manner: the first is through comprehensive arms control with the Soviet Union.

Whatever the Soviet calculations or motives may be, it is reasonable to conclude, in the light of recent experience, that they will not willingly settle for an arrangement that calls on them to dismantle a significant proportion of their strategic forces, especially since on the American side there are not as many comparable systems to be dismantled. It is this asymmetry that made Salt-II negotiations so protracted, and it was the absence *of any significant Soviet* concessions regarding their most lethal offensive systems that prompted in America such a strong popular reaction against the Salt-II agreement.

Moreover, three other factors complicate the forthcoming negotiations and reduce the prospects of a truly constructive accommodation. The first involves growing difficulties of verification.

Secondly, there is the problem of apparent Soviet non-compliance in regard to some significant aspects of recently concluded arrangements. The construction of a large anti-ballistic missile complex in the middle of the Soviet Union as well as the encryption of signals on warhead tests (presumably designed to inhibit American detection of multiple tests in excess of the number permitted under Salt-II) cast a serious shadow on the prospect of a comprehensive accommodation in the near future.

Finally, continuing conflicts, especially the one in Afghanistan, create a somewhat hostile atmosphere for the negotiations.

If comprehensive arms control is thus not likely, what is the alternative? The conventional answer, especially among those who are opposed to strategic defence, is to proceed with Enhanced Mutual Assured Destruction. But what does that mean in practice? The Russians have been enhancing their offensive forces, and to maintain deterrence in the absence of arms control, the advocates of M A D have only one course of action open to them: it is to deploy more and more offensive American strategic systems, relying increasingly on mobile intercontinental missiles (the M X and may be the Midgetman) as well as on the D-5 counterforce *missile* that will be deployed in the course of the next decade.

It is certainly appropriate to ask in this connection whether such enhanced M A D is in fact going to strengthen mutual deterrence. Will both sides be more secure with such massive deployment of increasingly precise first-strike systems? Will such an arrangement be cheaper than perhaps some alternative strategy, one involving a mixture of retaliatory strategic forces and strategic defence? I find it doubtful, to say the least, that such enhanced M A D will in fact contribute constructively to the needed stability and security in the American-Soviet strategic relationship.

This is why I have concluded that the only feasible alternative to comprehensive arms control is a new approach, which in my writings I have labelled "Mutual Assured Security" (M A S). This would involve the deployment during the early 1990s of a strategic defence system designed *not* to protect the United States *as a whole* but to disrupt a Russian first strike, in order to deny the Soviet planners the confidence that such a first strike could in fact be strategically disarming.

Such a counter-first-strike strategic defence would be composed of non-nuclear systems designed to intercept a Soviet first strike both during the first and the last phase of such an attack.

During the first phase of the Soviet attack, such a strategic defensive system would be composed of non-nuclear projectiles based on manoeuvrable space platforms, with such projectiles attacking Soviet missiles at the phase of their greatest vulnerability, that is before the warhead has separated from the three-stage carrier.

In addition, the strategic defence against a first strike would be supported by a second line of defence, which would come into play during the terminal phase of the Soviet attack, that is when the Soviet warheads that survived the first American defensive systems begin to re-enter the atmosphere in their final trajectory. At this stage the more familiar and conventional anti-ballistic missile system could come into play. The technology needed for such a defence already exists.

★

THE cumulative effect of the two-tiered system of defence would be to deny Soviet planners the ability to consider seriously a decisive first strike, but without in any way enhancing American offensive capabilities against Russia. Indeed, such an attitude would not require America to deploy on as large a scale the offensive first-strike systems that would be needed for deterrence in the event that the conventional M A D strategy is followed. Greater emphasis could be placed on second-strike systems.

The above is not an ideal solution, but it is clearly preferable to M A D. One must remember that politics or strategy are the arts of the possible. If arms control does not produce an agreement that genuinely improves mutual security and stability, we will be better off pursuing a strategy of M A S as outlined above than if we continue simply to pile up more offensive systems in keeping with the obsolete doctrine of M A D.

From 1977 to 1981 the author was Assistant for National Security Affairs to the President.

LONDON DAY BY DAY

A cult with no personality

PRESIDENT CHERNENKO was such a colourless Siberian time-server that even the Kremlin's K G B-inspired image-makers long ago gave up trying.

This was reflected in one of the very few anecdotes told about him. It went:

Question: Why is there so small a personality cult surrounding the Soviet leader?

Answer: The problem is there is some cult but no personality.

But beware all talk about Mikhail Gorbachev being a "liberal." During his meeting in London last December with Mr Kinnock and other Labour party leaders someone politely raised the plight of Anatoly Shcharansky, who is serving 15 years on a trumped-up charge.

Gorbachev retorted: "Shcharansky and other . . . . . like him deserve to be in prison and will remain there."

A reader in Powys tells me that on the first Sunday in Lent the church warden at her parish church remarked about the sparse congregation: "We are supposed to give up something for Lent. It looks as though most people have given up coming to church."

Haggis schmaggis

A KOSHER HAGGIS, which is approved by the Jewish licensing authorities has been put on sale by Kalman's of Streatham, south London.

The one-pound product is not made with a sheep's stomach — which would not be permitted — but with a synthetic skin. Harrods is stocking the haggis for a trial period.

Faulty face-lift

VERY FEW PEOPLE, I am told, have noticed what has gone wrong with the numerical order on the church clock at Littledean, Gloucestershire, which has recently been repainted.

My picture needs the closest scrutiny to reveal a rebel digit — a transposition spotted by an alert boy in the local junior school. But since the scaffolding has been taken down, the mistake must remain, doubtless to be put down to eccentricity.

Time lies.

Nasty present

EUROPE'S most tasteless souvenir is on display at Barcelona Airport, where a colleague spotted a porcelain statue of Adolf Hitler on sale in the duty-free shop at the weekend.

The foot-high model, standing next to a similar effigy of Franco, is selling for the equivalent of £86.

Civil servants have been intrigued to see an advertisement in their staff magazine to a holiday and conference centre in Yorkshire. It is called Scargill House. I am assured that they are more likely to go to "Pontings" instead.

Château retrouvé

FIFTY-FOUR cases of pre-war wines in Sotheby's sale of rare wines next week have an unusual and fascinating provenance.

Listed in the catalogue as coming from a "secret cellar," they were walled up in a château in southern Belgium at the beginning of the war away from the discerning appetites of the German High Command.

The hidden cellar remained undiscovered thanks to the presence of dummy wine bins — a fortuitous move since the wines include Echézeaux 1923, estimated at £240-£360 a dozen and Chambertin 1937 at up to £240 a dozen.

Unlisted

M Ps AND MEMBERS of the public incautious enough to send away for goods through the post are likely soon to find themselves on the S D P's mailing list — as 308,000 people have found in the past month alone.

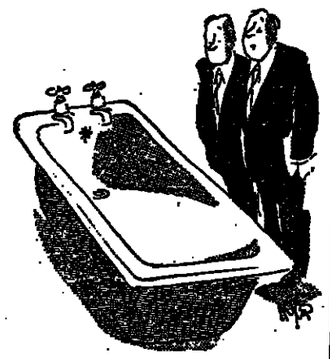
They have just received a computerised letter from Dr David Owen informing them he is writing to "a number of British voters" to solicit their opinions.

Several Tory M Ps have received the letters but I was told unsympathetically by a spokesman for the S D P: "If they send away for green wellies or something by mail order and they come up on the list we use, there is nothing we can do."

Taking the Mikhail

CHERNENKO'S death has caused problems for the cast of "The Cabinet Mole," who have found it impossible to insure Mrs Thatcher's political life and now have had to change their lines with the Soviet leader's demise.

In the original version Amanda Barrie plays a charwoman impersonating the Prime Minister who has telephone conversations with Chernenko, familiarly addressed as "Cherney." Now that Mikhail Gorbachev is the next "Red Tsar," in last night's opening performance at the Richmond Theatre, she called the Soviet premier "Micky."



"It was there that the idea of Thatcherism came to her."

Quick killing

AT THE END of the committee stage of the Local Government Bill last week, Junior Environment Minister, Sir George Young, arranged a sweepstake bet on the time it would take committee chairman, Labour's Ted Leadbitter, to sum up the speeches.

To the amazement of timekeeper Colin Moynihan, the only Olympic medallist in the House, Leadbitter managed to get it down to 3 minutes 26 seconds, *making the S D P's John* Cartwright and Labour back-bencher Tony Lloyd each £11·50 the richer.

Doctor's dilemma

THE FIRST diagnosis by a Western doctor that Chernenko was suffering from emphysema came, appropriately enough from Dr David Owen, when he last visited Moscow for Andropov's funeral.

Because of diplomatic niceties Owen was unable to make his medical opinion public but, he told me at the time, one glance was enough to make his diagnosis.

Owen's medical opinions on the remaining members of the Politburo are now being eagerly awaited by Kremlin-watchers when he returns from the latest funeral.

A correspondent has sent me a photograph of a notice taken near a river in Sutherland, Scotland, which reads: "Please take alternative path to the cemetery when anglers are casting here as there is a danger of being hooked."

Inland revenue

THE METAL PLATE outside the Inland Revenue offices in Andover, Hampshire, has been added to by vandals so that it now reads "H. M. Inspector of Taxes. Andover Fist."

PETERBOROUGH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HAPPINESS AND THE DAY'S WORK

SIR—Teachers are not regarded as holding the status they believe they deserve. The letter from Miss Susan B. R. Hood (March 8) exemplified why.

If teachers want to be treated as a profession they should accept conditions of employment other professions take for granted, and not argue about details of duties, or the length of the working day.

While there is always a notional working day professional people accept that they are expected to work the days and the hours the job demands. Each person, as an individual, attempts to define a framework for his activities, satisfactory for himself, his colleagues, and the carrying out of his tasks.

If he succeeds he is happy, motivated *and well paid in whatever proportions* he is looking for. If he is not successful, he is not happy, less well motivated and probably under paid, and might well have to move on to find a more congenial position.

He accepts this as his opportunity, and also possibly his fate.

B. WOOD
Spratton, Northants.

Flexible hours

SIR—Miss Susan B. R. Hood's suggestion for a teacher's working hours is good, except that there is no good reason why everyone should arrive and depart at the same time.

Many people in local government work "flexitime," in which fixed core hours must be worked, but outside these, times are flexible, as long as total hours are worked in a four-week period.

Signing in and out gives a check on time worked, and rush-hour travel can be avoided.

This system would be ideal for teachers, as the time spent on parent interviews, Saturday sports, lunch supervision *etc.*, would all be counted as official time worked, and teachers would gain the respect of other professionals in public service if they were seen to work the same hours as the rest of us.

G. HODGSON
Leeds.

The teacher's pay

SIR—Miss Susan B. R. Hood seems to have little idea of a teacher's life. I am not a teacher, but I am married to one, and know many.

You cannot boil teaching down to industrial hours; in any case the teacher's day does not end at 4, or even at 5.15.

If ever there is a contract for working hours of 8.45 to 5.15 in this profession the result will be a shambles. I would put the teacher's week as 50 hours, plus, and for this the pay is ludicrous.

I see no reason why my wife should earn less than half what I did as a 9-5.15 industrial worker, with probably less responsibility as well.

P. MULHOLLAND
Macclesfield, Cheshire.

A fairer solution

SIR—Miss Susan B. R. Hood is to be congratulated for her letter.

Perhaps however a fairer solution to the "part time" working hours and long holidays for teachers would be for them to be based on hourly pay.

If this were done perhaps some justification for a pay increase would become evident?

KEN DOWNER
Caterham, Surrey.

A student who beats 'unbeatable' results

SIR—I refer to "Desk Diary" (March 4). I feel I have a student who beats your unbeatable results.

My student, Ian Jordan, sat the entrance examination for Merton College, Oxford, in November, 1983. He achieved high quality results but following a most informal interview he was not offered a place at Merton.

In "A" level examinations in June, 1984, Ian obtained "A" grades in pure mathematics, applied mathematics, physics and chemistry. He took the "S" level papers in pure mathematics and physics and had grade one results in both papers. He is now studying physics at Bristol University.

I have recently been informed by one of my former students now at Oxford that of approximately 65 first-year students at Merton only nine come from State schools.

JOHN SWEET
Exeter College,
Exeter.

Supplies for Sudan

From Lord ENNALS

SIR—I have just returned from a visit to Sudan on behalf of the Ockenden Venture and the United Nations Association. It was a most heart-rending tour, meeting countless numbers of hungry Sudanese and of refugees from the Tigre region of Ethiopia and from Eritrea.

The writing is now clearly on the Sudanese wall. At the moment, the food pledged and/or delivered to Sudan is such that a gap of 600,000 tonnes still needs to be filled in order to ensure an adequate supply base until the end of May.

From June, Sudan (which has a very open policy towards receiving refugees as well as growing internal food demands) will face a massive deficit. At the moment, India (22,000 tonnes) is giving more than the European Economic Community (15,000 tonnes) — surely a desperately sad comment on what we are willing to do with our grain mountains?

Two years ago, the United Nations predicted the current disaster. Few people took any notice. It took dying children to get them to do so. In addition to food, fuel supplies are desperately short, since Sudan is crippled by a shortage of hard currency with which to pay for it; and yet it is a mere stone's throw from oil-rich Saudi Arabia to Port Sudan.

Unless the world responds *now* we shall have a further classic disaster on our hands by mid-summer. The media must surely publicise this fact urgently and not just wait until the crisis erupts before seeing it as newsworthy.

By any criteria, common decency demands that we do not turn our backs on so many fellow human beings suffering the deprivation and trauma of drought and famine in Sudan and elsewhere.

DAVID ENNALS
Chairman, United Nations Assn. of Gt Britain and N. Ireland,
London, S.W.1.

Master of agents

From Lady CLANMORRIS

SIR—As one who knew and admired the late Maxwell Knight, it was with some distaste I read the viperish comments of Mr Ferdinand Mount in your newspaper (March 2).

Maxwell Knight was a brilliant agent running officer, who ran his department with imagination and verve. All his staff were devoted to him.

To pick out the one mistake he made over Ben Greene and balance it against all his successes is as unfair as it is foolish.

"Max" pinpointed Anthony Blunt as being unworthy of trust long before he was uncovered, and always said that Russian espionage should occupy more attention than it did.

Unfortunately Anthony Masters was misled by the late Joan Miller on several points, not only about Max's true character, but she also took upon herself the role of the Mata Hari of M I 5, when she was merely a secretary, awarding herself the brilliant achievements of Hélène de Munck, one of Max's best agents.

Those who faithfully serve their country in intelligence are not allowed to defend themselves (I write as one who has had a very simple autobiography banned by the D notice committee).

There is one important point which has been missed by the general public, when there exist such people as Mr Mount and Mr Chapman Pincher, the K G B does not *need* a disinformation department.

Patriotism is the best weapon of the Russians — it is out of fashion in our country.

MADELEINE CLANMORRIS
London, S.W.1.

Difficulties of running a nationalised business

SIR—Your leader on the future of coal and Mr Peter Hordern's article (March 6) about the other utilities do, at long last, bring some commonsense to bear on the question of public ownership.

To the misty-eyed legislators of yesteryear the idea of nationalisation had an irresistible appeal. What they did not understand of course was that something in public ownership is really owned by no one with all that that implies, and worse still, is run by politicians and civil servants who, whatever their other talents, should not be expected to run businesses.

And this is the point: these utilities are *businesses*, huge and complex affairs that only businessmen with the experience, flair and determination of an Edwardes or a Weinstock could expect to run successfully.

In the hands of others, however well-intentioned but lacking the sharp goad of a shareholder's vote to keep them on the right track, is it any wonder that we have created monstrosities that are affronts to basic housekeeping?

In the limbo of nationalisation how can we expect other than over-manning, indulgence, ludicrously high charges and, vilest of all aberrations, managements that all too often create by their amateur approach a union attitude that can be simply put: "The world owes *us a living*"?

Do any of your readers seriously doubt that it is that proposition that is the motor for all too much public sector union activity today; activity which has grown like a fungus in the dark and hidden reaches of fudge and little or no accountability?

Your leader rightly proposes the privatisation of coal; Mr Hordern offers the glimpse of an even more glittering future with gas, electricity and water also to be sold into private and competent hands and why stop there?

However, and regrettably, there is a sad conclusion to be drawn in considering the effectiveness of this Government.

It is that, well into its second term, there are still few real signs that it has the will and fibre to free the people *quickly* from the inefficiency and high financial cost of the utilities and, perhaps as important, from the endless threat posed to our national life by the workshy parasites who continue to be nourished by the gross and offensive absurdity of nationalisation.

P. EVANS
London, S.W.10.

Heath's administration

SIR—Mr Peter Hordern (article, March 6) seems to be unaware that the assets controlled by the water authorities are not owned by them.

When the Heath/Walker administration nationalised the water industry in 1974 the assets were transferred to the water authorities without compensation. Most of the work continues to be done by the former owners (local authorities) as agents for the water authorities. To sell off confiscated assets seems more *appropriate to Marxism than to conservatism.*

This is only one of the unwanted legacies of the Heath administration. The present problems with the Greater London Council and Metropolitan authorities arise directly from the ill-advised reorganisation of local government in 1974.

Only recently has the Government been able to remove some of the needless tiers of administration imposed on the National Health Service by Mr Heath's passion for reorganising everything.

I am surprised that credibility is still given to his views.

DEREK MARTIN
Former member,
Thames Water Authority,
Medmenham, Bucks.

Cross-Channel traffic

SIR—I was rather surprised that Mr Sid Weighell, a former railwayman, in his article about airport policy (March 7), should have made no reference to the Channel Tunnel project.

A Channel Tunnel would make rail travel to and from a number of European centres, notably Paris and Brussels, much more convenient than air.

A working party on the Channel Tunnel is due to report shortly; I should be surprised if its forecasts of passenger traffic made no assumption of a transfer from air to rail. This in turn must have an effect upon forecasts of the growth of air traffic, and hence of additional airport capacity required.

It does seem essential, if a sensible decision is to be arrived at, that cross-Channel passenger traffic be considered as a whole. All the deliberations about airports seem not only to have treated air travel in isolation, but to have been confined to finding ways of accommodating, as best we can, its eternal, inevitable and inexorable growth.

V. H. RAMSEY
Horsham, W. Sussex.

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هكذا من الأصل

Vandals' Vietcong vengeance on school caretaker

By JOHN ISBICKI Education Correspondent

A SCHOOL caretaker who chased away a gang of pupils and ex-pupils vandalising a classroom was later subjected to a reign of terror reminiscent of a Hammer horror film, a seminar was told yesterday.

Manhole covers were removed at night: tripwires were stretched across the top of a spiral staircase; and pits were dug and studded with wooden stakes, Vietcong-style.

Mr Alan Symonds, headmaster of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea county middle schol in Northumberland, told the story during the vandalism seminar in Sunderland.

Vandalism has now reached such proportions that the Home Office has ordered an inquiry into crime in schools which is costing taxpayers an estimated £200 million in replacement of furniture and equipment alone.

Paying for pay

Mr Alistair Buchan, assistant director of education for Sunderland, said:

"If one added the damage done to buildings, broken windows and doors that need to be replaced, graffiti that has to be removed, fire brigades and police called out and the alarm systems that have to be installed, the cost would reach about £500 million a year."

That would easily pay for the teachers' full 12·5 per cent. pay claim.

Mr Buchan had suggested a small seminar for the six Northumbrian authorities. Instead, representatives from 14 local authorities turned up as well as from 12 police forces, the Home Office, the Department of Education, insurance companies.

"It was an overwhelming response which showed just how concerned local government is becoming with this problem," he said.

Insurance companies have just refused to insure computers at Leeds schools for next year, since last year's theft claims worth £12,500 were considered too big.

And the Inner London Education Authority, despite spending £1 million on security, finds losses still at an unacceptably high level, so much so that insurance companies will not insure the 1,084 schools, 21 adult education institutes and 38 colleges against theft.

A high-level ILEA meeting to discuss a secret memorandum leaked to the DAILY TELEGRAPH agreed to:

STEP UP security training for school caretakers, media resources officers and school secretaries; INTRODUCE personal identification for security purposes inside school buildings; KEEP proper equipment and stock records; SEE that cash is handled properly; MARK equipment; CARRY OUT security checks on all visitors; and INTRODUCE proper "key discipline"

CURBS ON TEACHERS' REFRESHERS

By MARGOT NORMAN Education Staff

TEACHERS' refresher courses in peace studies and other fringe subjects are to be outlawed by legislation the Government is planning to bring in this autumn.

At present local authorities are free to spend around £100 training for teachers as they think fit. But, as a wide-ranging White Paper on raising schools standards will make clear when it is unveiled the week after next, the Government does not think much of the way they have been using it.

Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, will now take control of in-service training directly, boosting the amount of money available overall, but releasing it to local authorities only if they promise to spend it on his own shopping list of suitable courses.

Anti-racist maths

Those in maths, computers, science for primary school teachers, craft, design and technology will feature prominently. But those local authorities now taking teachers out of the classroom to work on peace studies, anti-racist maths, anti-imperialist geography and the way society discriminates against lesbians will find their funds for such exercises abruptly drying up.

A new body, the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Training, will be able to close courses for teachers if it decides they are not up to scratch.

Teacher training as a whole, both at the student level and throughout a practising teacher's career, will become a central government matter to be determined primarily by reference to national, rather than local (and often local party-political) priorities.

CANCELLED TRAINS

British Rail's Southern Region cancelled 85 out of 4,710 scheduled commuter services last week. Eastern Region had 56 cancellations from 2,225, Western one from 500 and London Midland eight from 1,205.

Bird-reptile fossil 'could be a fake'

By DAVID GRAVES

SIX scientists, including Sir Fred Hoyle, have suggested that a priceless fossil at the Natural History Museum could be a Victorian fake.

But the museum dismissed the theory yesterday as "absolute rubbish" and said it was completely satisfied that the Archaeopteryx, the fossile of a feathered, bird-like reptile, was genuine.

The fossil, discovered in a Bavarian limestone quarry in 1861 and photographically examined by the six scientists in December, shows the transition between bird and reptile. It has been used as a cornerstone of accepted evolutionary theory and was featured in David Attenborough's television series "Life on Earth."

However, Sir Fred, the radio astronomer, and his scientific colleagues said that their examination showed evidence of a layer of fine grain limestone on the fossil carrying the imprints of the creature's feathers.

Another area of feather prints was found in a depressed section of the fossil which was not matched by a corresponding elevation on the rock where it was found.

'Remarkably close'

The scientific team's findings, published in the current issue of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHOTOGRAPHY, suggest hat the feather impressions could have been added in the 19th century.

The report said that there was a clear indication of a "layer of a fine matrix limestone material being thinly distributed over a rougher surface so as to carry an adequate resolution for a feather-like imprint to be made."

Low-angle flash lighting and advanced photographic techniques were used by the team

Prof Chandra Wickramasinghe, of University College, Cardiff, one of the team, said yesterday: "This was the first time this technique of photography has been used in this way and we believe there are powerful reasons now for further examination of the Archaeopteryx."

A museum spokesman said: "We consider this theory to be absolute rubbish which, coming from us, is very strong language indeed.

"The museum rarely states itself quite so strongly but, on this occasion, we owe it to the science which we study.

£65,000 GRANT FOR CENTRE

By Our Churches Correspondent

Kent University Centre for the Study of Religion and Society has been awarded a grant of £65,000 by the Leverhulme Trust.

This will enable Dr Kenneth Wolfe, research fellow of the centre, to produce over the next three years a sequel to his history of religious broadcasting, "The Church and the BBC 1922-56: The Politics of Broadcast Religion," which will cover the period 1956-76.

Lt-Cdr Clive Waghorn having his pulse taken by Capt. Sue Farmer in the British Military Hospital in Port Stanley where he is recovering from his ordeal.

'I'm ready for a beer' greeting to rescuers

By PATRICK WATTS in Port Stanley

A CHEERY "Bloody nice to see you. I'm looking forward to a beer" was the first thing Lt-Cdr Clive Waghorn, 36, the injured Royal Navy explorer, said to Lieut David Naismith, the Sea King helicopter observer who had just winched him to safety off an Antarctic glacier.

Cdr Waghorn is now recovering from a broken femur at the British Military hospital in Port Stanley, and is expected to be flown home from the Falklands on Friday.

The naval officer was injured when a large chunk of ice fell on him seconds after he himself had fallen into a 60ft crevasse on the 3,800 ft Lister Glacier, in the remote Antarctic island of Brabant.

Cdr Waghorn was full of praise yesterday for L/Cpl Kerry Gill, 22, a telecommunications mechanic from Marlow, Bucks., who stayed by his side throughout the five-day ordeal while they waited for rescue.

Caboose in ice

"He did everything I asked him without a moment's complaint or hesitation," said Cdr Waghorn. "I couldn't have asked for a better tent companion and considering his age, I think he was absolutely incredible."

L/Cpl Gill had ventured outside the tent during breaks in the weather and dug snow walls around the tent to keep out the wind. He also made a little caboose in one of the walls as an alternative sheltering point in case the tent was blown away.

Cdr Waghorn admitted that there had been a particular low point during their ordeal. It had come after the fourth day when a helicopter crew located their tent, released smoke grenades, but disappeared just when they thought rescue was imminent.

L/Cpl Gill admitted that at first he was "a bit dubious" at the decision taken to leave him with Cdr Waghorn. However, he and Cdr Waghorn had taken a decision that if assistance was not forthcoming after two weeks, Gill would attempt to get back to the main base at Metchnikoff Point in the north-west of the island.

"Clive (Waghorn) made a decision that it was pointless for both of us to die. He told me that I should go, but it would have been the last resort. I would have stayed as long as I could with him," said L/Cpl Gill.

GIRL IN POOL LEFT £482,007

By ROBERT BEDLOW Estates Correspondent

CATHY PELLY, the 16-year-old heiress whose naked body was found in a river pool near Dartington Hall School, Devon, after a martial arts lesson, left nearly half a million pounds.

The grand-daughter of Mr Tony Clark, former chairman of Clark Shoes, who died 10 days ago at the age of 76, she did not leave a will, but her estate amounted to £482,007 net (£485,339 gross).

Cathy died in July after she had been sunbathing nude, but she dressed in a white top and bikini briefs for Kung Fu lesson from Mr Dennis Rundle, the school caretaker.

Open verdict

An open verdict was returned at the inquest in August and Mr Rundle, 40, who was dismissed from his job, recently had his appeal against dismissal rejected by an industrial tribunal.

Cathy's fortune, inherited from family trusts and relatives, will be severely eroded by Capital Transfer Tax. As she left no will the money is expected to revert to her parents.

Doctors denounce 'silent scream' in abortion film

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS in New York

A CONTROVERSIAL documentary film that purports to show a foetus "silently screaming" during an abortion has been denounced by American health experts as medically false.

The film was produced last year by Dr Bernard Nathanson, a New York surgeon who used advanced ultrasound techniques.

These obtained images of a 12-week-old foetus moving inside the womb during an abortion.

Anti-abortion campaigners believe no woman who saw "The Silent Scream," would seek to terminate a pregnancy. President Reagan said if Congress members all saw the film, "they would quickly end the tragedy of abortion."

But prominent gynaecologists and obstetricians canvassed by CBS Television say the film does not show what Dr Nathanson says it does.

'Serene sanctuary'

According to his narration, "We can see the child moving rather serenely in the uterus. The child senses aggression in its sanctuary. We see the child's mouth open in a silent scream (as the abortionist's instruments probe the uterus)."

Dr Fay Redwine of the Medical College of Virginia told CBS: "Any of us could show you the same image in a foetus who is not being aborted."

And Dr John Hobbins of Yale University School of Medicine said: "There is no evidence to indicate that the foetus has the capability of purposeful movement.

"That it has the capability to perceive the things that (Dr Nathanson) said it was perceiving, to struggle against whatever he said it was struggling against."

Words to the effect that the foetus sensed "the most mortal danger imaginable," were wrong because at 12 weeks the cortex was not yet functioning and it processed information and perceived pain.

The key question, the experts agreed, was whether the foetus could actually be aware that anything was happening.

Dr Jeninfer Niebyl, of the John Hopkins School of Medicine, said at 12 weeks it would display only "strictly reflex" activity.

HUMAN SKIN GROWN IN A BOTTLE

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

HUMAN skin grown in a bottle in the laboratory is being used to provide skin grafts for patients badly burned in accidents, it was disclosed yesterday.

A new technique devised in Boston Massachusetts, and perfected by scientists in Britain, enable sa piece of skin the size of a halfpenny to be taken from the patient and grown to 1,000 times its size within a month.

The technique overcomes major drawbacks in existing methods of taking skin from one part of the bady and using it to repair damage to another part.

Present methods result in raw and painful sites on the body where skin has been removed and in some severly burned patients there is a shortage of suitable places from which skin can be taken.

The new technique has been perfected by researchers at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, working in conjunction with the Department of Pathology at Cambridge University.

Doctors in Birmingham have already started to treat patients using the new technique and Addenbrooke's plans to set up a special unit to start work within three months.

RATE BILLS UP THREEFOLD

By Our Political Staff

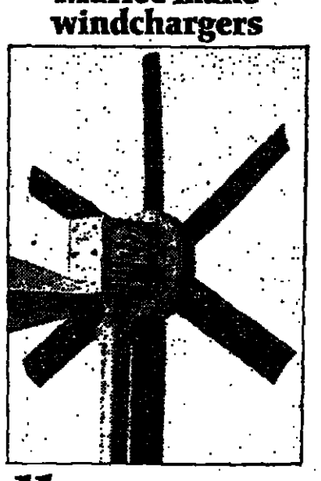
The average household rate bill in England has increased almost threefold during the past seven years, Mr Kenneth Baker, Local Government Minister, said yesterday in a written Commons answer.

If rebates are ignored, the average domestic rate bill had risen from £119 in 1977/78, to £525 in the financial year just ending.

Cooper Bros. are civil engineers

Scotts construct timber buildings

Marlec make windchargers



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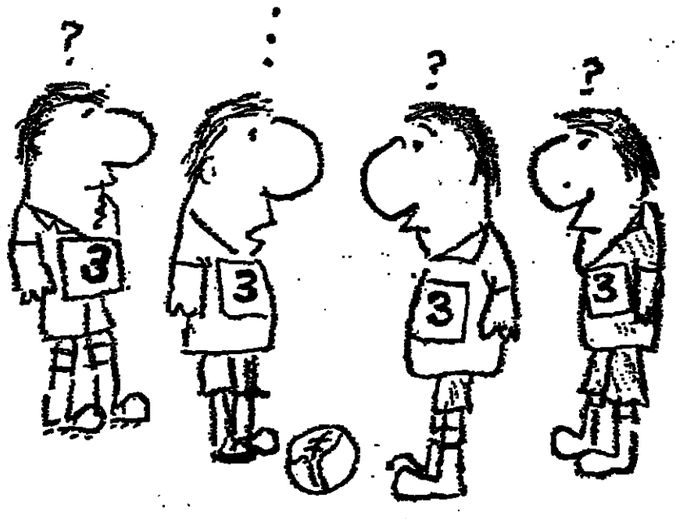

Until Arsenal first gave their players numbers in 1928, radio commentators had a hard time telling footballers apart. But it wasn't until *this* year that Mobil could claim a number all of its own – 100 years of doing business in Britain.

Age, however, isn't everything.

We'd rather be known for a few other things. Such as introducing fully synthesised engine lubricants to the UK and still today being able to claim the world's most advanced motor oil – Mobil 1 Rally Formula. Or being the first to inject gas into a UK North Sea oil field instead of burning it off. That helps us to get more oil out and at the same time saves the gas for later use.

All things that count far more than anniversaries.

Mobil

Gilts show improvement

ACCOUNT: March 11-March 22.
PAY DAY: April 1.
BARGAINS TRANSACTED: 28,834.
RISES: 525. FALLS: 269.
UNCHANGED: 950.
EQUITY TURNOVER (March 8):
Number of bargains 27,470;
value £526·31 million.
Shares traded: 269·9 million.

F.T. STOCK INDICES, March 11, 1985

	Index	Change	1984-85 High	1984-85 Low
Indust. Ord.	989·2	+1·1	1024·5	755·3
Govt. Secs.	80·75	−0·35	83·77	75·72
Gold Mines	475·5	−0·6	711·7	439·5
Fixed Int.	83·65	−0·05	87·48	80·43
Ord. Div. p.c.	4·55	−0·02	5·29	4·32
Earn Yld p.c.	11·30	+0·04	12·39	9·09
FT-SE 100:	1290·8	+2·2	1305·7	986·7

FINANCIAL markets yesterday made a steady-to-firm start to the latest trading account which covers the Chancellor's Budget on March 19. Operators took a cautious stance in leading equities, confining their attention chiefly to companies thought to be possible bid targets or those which featured in the weekend financial columns.

A major factor behind the market's overall firmness stemmed from the latest international financial outlook published by Lloyds Bank. This predicted that if today's money supply statistics in respect of banking February prove to be very good this could trigger off a reduction in domestic banks' base lending rates of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ points. In any case, the report suggested that rates are still likely to fall in response to confidence created by the Chancellor's measures.

Reflecting the confident tone, the "30" index closed 1·1 firmer at 989·2, after 989·7, while the more broadly-based "100" index settled 2·2 higher at 1290·8, its best level of the day.

Pre-weekend strength in the United States bond market, hopes of a fairly tough Budget next Tuesday and an easing in the key three-month interbank rate made for good performance in government securities. Demand was biased towards the longer-end of the market, enabling the Government broker to sell some of his "tap" in **Exchequer 11 p.c., 1990** at a price of £$20\frac{3}{8}$. Supplies of the $10\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. Treasury stock, 1999 were exhausted at £$98\frac{7}{8}$, and closing quotations across the board showed improvements of £$\frac{1}{4}$.

The outstanding performer among leading blue chip issues was undoubtedly **B T R**, whose shares climbed to 707p prior to settling 30 higher at 689p following news of the company's successful offer late on Friday for Dunlop. **Dunlop** themselves were supported to 69p before light profit-taking left the final quote $18\frac{1}{2}$ better at $65\frac{1}{2}$p.

Elsewhere among the leaders, the pattern was generally mixed. **I C I** came on offer and were 12 off at 812p in their ex-dividend form, but **Courtaulds**, at 161p, and **B A T Industries**, at 367p, added 3 and 5 respectively.

In the engineering sector, **Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds** advanced to 227p prior to closing 6 to the good at 225p as buyers anticipated the preliminary results which are due tomorrow. **T I Group**, on the other hand, cheapened a couple of pence to 226p ahead of their annual figures on Thursday.

Among second-line issues, **Yarrow** were wanted and jumped 15 to 455p in belated response to Friday's interim earnings, while favourable Press comment provided the spur to **R H P**, finally 7 better at 104p. **Vickers** hardened 2 to 248p, ex-dividend.

The major clearing banks were in good form in the wake of last week's dividend reporting season. **Lloyds** led the way and climbed 19 to 544p, ex the dividend, while **National Westminster** put on 13 to 619p ex dividend, and **Midland** $9\frac{1}{2}$ to 344p ex dividend.

Weekend comment was responsible for strength in **Royal Bank of Scotland**, 12 higer at 268p, while discount houses were firm with **Cater Allen** 5 ahead at 538p. In financials, **Goode Durrant & Murray Group** advanced to 86p before settling 3 up at 83p in response to English Association's acquisition on a controlling stake in the company.

Breweries were a shade firmer with **Bass** 7 better at 519p. Among secondary issues, **Matthew Brown** were outstanding and surged 20 to 288p following a fresh bout of bid speculation.

Tarmac highlighted the building sector and rose 8 to 502p in response to investment demand, but **Barratt Developments**, in contrast, encountered small nervous offering ahead of results due soon and cheapened a couple of peace to 70p.

Hopes in connection with a bid lifted **Rank Organisation** 15 to 373p, while **Ingall Industries** jumped 16 to 89p following the 80p a share cash offer from Greater Midlands Co-op Society. Brazil order hopes enlivened dealings in **Brikat** whose shares touched 365p prior to closing 15 firmer at 350p in thin and sensitive conditions.

The half-yearly results from **Process Systems** were well received and the shares added 5 to 85p. Others to go better on figures included **Parker Knoll**, also 5 ahead at 180p, **Phicom**, 3 firmer at 42p, and **T & S Stores**, 6 to the good at 125p, after 126p. Dealers liked the 50 p.c. scrip issue which accompanied the results from **Low & Bonar**, finally 21 higher at 346p.

Favourable Press comment lifted **Hawley Group** 3 to 111p, while further consideration of the proposed merger was responsible for strength in **Barlow**, $12\frac{3}{4}$ ahead at 124p, and **Majedie**, 11 better at 150p, both in ex-dividend form.

A resumption of bid speculation fuelled **Fleet Holdings**, 11 up at 290p, while among second-line chemical issues, **Anchor** advanced to 270p on favourable Press comment before reverting to Friday's closing level of 265p.

Buyers sought **Bairstow Eves**, 5 higher at 80p, ahead of today's figures. Comment on bid speculation saw **Christies International** climb 24 to 650p, while **Barham** encountered investment demand and jumped 30 to 440p. A more detailed appraisal of figures last week was responsible for an upsurge in **Antofagasta**, finally 15 to the good at 265p.

Leathers featured **Pittard** whose shares advanced to 112p prior to settling 13 firmer at 109p as buyers anticipated figures due March 18. **Williams Holdings**, currently bidding for J & H B Jackson, perked up 10 to 255p, while **Jackson** themselves added 5 to 110p.

Among leading electrical issues, **Thorn E M I** were a late casualty and ceded 7 to 437p, but **Plessey** rose $7\frac{3}{4}$ to 188p in their ex dividend form. Elsewhere, **Automated Security Holdings** rose 7 to 188p in response to the subsidiaries' results, but **B S R** cheapened a similar amount to 140p in the wake of recent figures.

Stores issues were firm and active with gains of 6 common to **Boots**, 174p, **British Home Stores**, 247p, and **Marks & Spencer**, 141p. **Foster Bros Clothing**, currently the subject of an unwelcome offer from Ward White, surged 20 to 228p on the appearance of a third party. **House of Fraser** settled a couple of pence cheaper at 400p following the acquisition of 11·4 million shares at $403\frac{1}{2}$p by Alfayed Investment and the sale by Lonrho of a near 6·3 p.c. stake in the company. Alfayed now owns 37·4 p.c. of Fraser.

Late support left **W H Smith** 18 higher at 212p, while investment demand was responsible for firmness in **Wolfworth Holdings**, finally 13 to the good at 618p. **Dixons** advanced 16 to 599p in response to the sale of Currys Group's television and video rental business to Electronic Rentals.

Properties were firm and active under the lead of **Stock Conversion** which climbed 25 to 473p in the wake of bid speculation. **M E P C** were wanted and put on 4 to 306p, while **London Shop Property** hardened to 132p following the interim results.

Insurance issues were to the fore with **General Accident** closing 23 higher at 553p and **Commercial Union** 4 up at 189p. Among brokers, **C E Heath** advanced to 640p, as did **Sedgwick**, at 385p. **Willis Faber** rose 10 to 664p.

In motors, **Group Lotus** fell 4 to 114p following the board's attempts to diffuse the situation, but **A C Cars** climbed to 63p prior to settling 10 higher at 61p in the face of mounting bid speculation.

Buyers came for the major oil stocks. **Tricentrol** were in the van and surged 18 to 218p, after 220p, on market suggestions that Enterprise Oil will make an offer, while **Britoil** were wanted and added 8 to 215p on favourable comment.

SHIPPING

1984-85 High	1984-85 Low	Stock	Price	+ or −
280	162	British & Com	280	+10
157	90	Fisher, J.	120	..
760	519	Graig Shipping	585	..
182	84	Hunting Gibson	98	..
115	$45\frac{1}{2}$	Jacobs, John	59	..
3	$2\frac{1}{4}$	London & Over.	$2\frac{1}{4}$	..
15	11	Lyle, S.S.	12	−1
$82\frac{1}{2}$	35	Mersey Dck U	40	..
95	36	Milford Docks	73	+1
166	104	Ocean Transpt	166	+7
416	249	P & O Defd.	353*	+4
47	4	ReardonSmith	15	$+1\frac{1}{2}$
115	75	Runciman, W.	97	−5

TEXTILES

1984-85 High	1984-85 Low	Stock	Price	+ or −
397	265	Allied Textile	385	+2
153	98	Atkins Bros.	108	+1
91	60	Beales, J.	73	..
107	65	Beckman, A.	90	..
29	15	Bolton Textile	29	+4
136	$78\frac{1}{2}$	Brit. Mohair	124	..
76	55	Bulm & Lumb	74	−2
182	150	Burmatex	160	..
68	$19\frac{1}{2}$	Carpets Intrn.	43	..
165	91	Coats Patons	164	+1
$72\frac{1}{2}$	$57\frac{1}{2}$	Corah	$68\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$
161	109	Courtaulds	161	+3
51	30	Crowther, J.	47	..
310	185	Dawson Intnl.	306	..
177	78	Dixon, David	184	..
73	38	Early's of Wit.	72	..
$16\frac{1}{2}$	7	Ferguson, J.	$10\frac{1}{2}$	..
62	40	Foster, John	55	..
34	18	Hicking Pent.	32	..
61	30	Illingworth M	60	..
446	88	Ingram, H.	125	..
95	55	Jerome, S.	64	..
162	97	Leeds Group	160	−2
79	49	Lister & Co.	52	+1
46	20	Lowe, Robt. H	22	..
118	67	Lyle, S.	77	..
94	43	McD Group	90	..
92	56	Mackay Hugh	80	..
59	36	Martin, A.	54	..
30	23	Munton, Gp.	$22\frac{1}{2}$	..
278	186	Notts Manufrs	224	+4
22	17	Nova (Jersey)	21	+1
60	31	Palma Group	52	..
113	87	Parkland Text	106	..
35	$21\frac{1}{2}$	Ramar Textile	$21\frac{1}{2}$	..
$43\frac{1}{2}$	$18\frac{1}{2}$	Readicut	$27\frac{1}{2}$	..
172	85	S.E.E.T.	172	..
85	38	SandraMurray	64	..
$50\frac{1}{2}$	21	Sekers Intntl.	$50\frac{1}{2}$	+2
49	$33\frac{1}{2}$	Shaw Carpets	35	..
156	112	Sirdar	134	+1
92	47	StroudRiley	51	..
88	61	Textured Jsy	74	..
172	95	Tomkinsons	115	..
79	34	Tootal	71	..

TOBACCOS

1984-85 High	1984-85 Low	Stock	Price	+ or −
385	175	BAT Inds.	367	+5
92	$54\frac{1}{2}$	Carroll Inds.	92	..
200	137	Imps	189	+11
201	112	Rothmans	185	..

PLANTATIONS

1984-85 High	1984-85 Low	Stock	Price	+ or −
255	124	AngloIndones	227	+4
510	315	Assam Dooars	350	..
265	125	Bertam Holds	147	..
$117\frac{1}{2}$	84	Cons. Plant.	116	−1
170	96	HarrisonsMly	141	..
113	77	Highlnd&Low	95	+2
97	52	Jitra Rubber	65	..
167	78	KualaLumpur	104	−2
105	77	Kulim	90	−1
$616\frac{1}{2}$	715	Lawrie Plant	$514\frac{1}{2}$	..
184	107	Malakof	131	..
310	149	McLeod Russ	287	+5
810	365	Moran	810*	+1
91	61	Rowe Evans	84	..
725	215	Wesurn Dooar	665	..
680	397	Williamson H	538	..

RIGHTS ISSUES

Issue Price	Stock	Price	+ or −
59	Barrow Heph (nil pd)	2 pm	$-1\frac{1}{2}$
125	Bibby, J. (nil pd)	20 pm	..
365	DPCE (nil pd)	85 pm	..
190	STC (nil pd)	14 pm	$+1\frac{1}{2}$
315	Trafalgar House Inv.	38 pm	..

RECENT ISSUES

Issue Price	Stock	Price	+ or −
100	Alexandra Wkwr Plc	135	−2
83	BTS Group	74	+1
10	Bennett Fountain	18	..
150	Berkley Tech	145	..
90	Blue Bird Toys	140	..
160	Candover	203	..
105	Cpml. Tern. Inv.	98	..
$\frac{1}{2}$97	Exch. 11% 1990 (£20 pd)	£$20\frac{1}{4}$	$+\frac{1}{8}$
100	German Small Units	110	..
145	Hillsdown Hlds.	166	−1
—	Johnson Mt 8.5 CPref	130	..
—	Kinnaird & Forster	54	..
100	Mayhew Foods	120	−2
55	Optometric (USA)	47	−2
135	Osborne & Little	198	+5
—	P&O Conv. Pref. 5.5%	110	..
150	Penney & Giles Intl.	165	..
100	Pene	102	..
—	Pleasurama 7% C.Prf	109	..
92	Process Systems	85	..
—	Racal 7% conv.	109	..
20	Rex Williams	$23\frac{1}{2}$	..
—	Sangers 11% C.Ln 94.02	116	+5
128	Suns Catering Rchrs	162	+1
68	Spafax TV	95	..
£94.895	Spain Ln 5% 2010 (£50pd)	£$53\frac{1}{8}$	$+\frac{1}{8}$
174	Sumapee	220	..
—	T & S Stores	125	+6
95	Whitworth Food Gp.	200	+7
—	WigfallH.7% Pref. Red	1	..

TOURIST RATES

Australia	$1·52\frac{1}{2}$ dollars
Austria	25·00 schillings
Belgium	72·00 francs
Canada	$1·49\frac{1}{2}$ dollars
Denmark	12·87 kroner
Finland	7·50 markkaa
France	10·94 francs
Germany	3·57 marks
Greece	*147·00 drachmae
Holland	4·05 guilders
Iceland	*45·00 kronur
Ireland	$1·15\frac{1}{2}$ punt
Israel	790·00 shekel
Italy	*2,230 lire
Japan	280 yen
Malta	*0·5380 pounds
New Zealand	2·22 dollars
Norway	10·30 kroner
Portugal	*191·00 escudos
South Africa	*2·35 rand
Spain	*197·25 pesetas
Sweden	10·22 kroner
Switzerland	3·03 francs
Turkey	510·00 lira
United States	$1·07\frac{1}{2}$ dollars
Yugoslavia	*264·00 dinars

Rates indicate approximate foreign currency bank notes obtainable for sterling in Britain.
* Subject to limit

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

		Close	Day's range	Contracts traded	High-Low
Long Gilt	Mar	104·10	104·13–104·05	150	105·02–101·22
	June	105·02	105·07–104·18	2659	106·13–101·25
US T-bond	Mar	69·15	69·12–68·22	51	74·06–69·28
	June	68·16	68·20–67·25	1858	72·16–68·31
3 month £	Mar	86·17	86·18–86·07	308	90·84–86·04
	June	87·76	87·77–87·54	1127	90·15–87·55
3 month Euro-dollar	Mar	90·42	90·43–90·25	1069	91·35–88·05
	June	89·33	89·37–89·14	7200	90·88–88·24
Sterling	Mar	1·0679	1·0700–1·0595	158	1·2770–1·0416
	June	1·0579	1·0604–1·0495	171	1·1453–1·0000
D-mark	Mar	0·2946	0·2947–0·2917	25	0·3437–0·2887
	June	0·2969	0·2970–0·2939	23	0·3089–0·2911
Swiss Franc	Mar	—	—	—	0·4013–0·3420
	June	—	—	—	0·3568–0·3463
Yen	Mar	0·3827	0·3823–0·3825	21	0·4109–0·3806
	June	—	—	—	0·3887–0·3850
FT-SE 100	Mar	127·95	128·15–127·50	180	131·00–112·00
	June	128·45	128·45–128·45	10	131·00–120·40

Contracts specifications include:
Long Gilt—notional 20 year stock with 12 pc coupon and face value of £50,000
US T-bond—notional 15 year stock with 8pc coupon and face value of $100,000.
3 month sterling eurodollars—£250,000/US$ 1 million with cash settlement option.
Currencies are quoted against the dollar with face values of £25,000, Dm 125,000 Swf. 125,000 and Yen 12,500,000
FT-SE 100 quoted one-tenth the index with face value of £25 per index point. Settlement cash only.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Option	Ex'cise Price	CALLS Apr.	CALLS July	CALLS Oct.	PUTS Apr.	PUTS July	PUTS Oct.
BP	550	18	33	48	32	45	50
BP	600	7	20	30	72	80	87
Comm. Union	160	29	34	37	3	7	9
Comm. Union	180	12	18	23	10	13	17
Cons. Gold	460	40	52	62	9	14	20
Cons. Gold	500	18	30	38	28	38	45
Courtaulds	140	24	28	33	3	6	8
Courtaulds	160	9	15	20	7	11	13
GEC	180	28	38	44	4	8	8
GEC	200	14	21	30	7	12	16
Grand Met.	280	23	30	40	9	12	16
Grand Met.	300	9	20	28	8	25	33
ICI	850	21	40	52	35	57	65
ICI	900	6	20	32	90	97	104
Land Securities	280	27	32	38	4	5	8
Land Securities	300	12	19	25	10	14	18
Marks&Spencer	130	15	20	25	4	8	9
Marks&Spencer	140	7	13	17	7	12	16
Shell	750	32	45	58	25	35	45
Shell	800	17	27	36	62	65	75
Traf. House	323	38	43	47	4	7	10
Traf. House	353	19	26	32	12	17	21

Option	Ex'cise Price	CALLS May	CALLS Aug.	CALLS Nov.	PUTS May	PUTS Aug.	PUTS Nov.
Exchequer 10pc 1989	£92	$5\frac{1}{16}$	$3\frac{5}{16}$	$4\frac{5}{16}$	$\frac{11}{32}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	$\frac{13}{32}$
Exchequer 10pc 1989	£94	$1\frac{9}{16}$	$2\frac{1}{8}$	$2\frac{11}{16}$	$1\frac{1}{16}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{9}{16}$
Barclays	600	25	37	55	32	45	55
Barclays	650	10	18	25	72	75	77
BAT Inds.	360	30	45	53	20	32	38
BAT Inds.	390	14	22	30	40	48	55
British Telecom	120	18	22	26	5	8	8
British Telecom	130	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$14\frac{1}{2}$	19	$6\frac{1}{2}$	10	$11\frac{1}{2}$
Imperial Grp	180	20	25	28	6	9	12
Imperial Grp.	200	10	17	21	15	21	23
LASMO	330	40	40	58	12	18	23
LASMO	360	25	50	58	30	32	38
Lonrho	160	14	19	22	5	8	12
Lonrho	180	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	13	18	21	24
P & O	330	40	55	63	8	8	12
P & O	360	25	37	45	18	25	30
Racal	200	32	39	48	5	10	11
Racal	220	18	28	36	12	15	22
R.T.Z.	600	65	75	90	12	18	22
R.T.Z.	650	35	42	64	32	42	51
Vaal Reef	£70	$18\frac{1}{2}$	20	22	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$
Vaal Reef	£80	$10\frac{1}{2}$	12	14	5	7	$9\frac{1}{2}$

Option	Ex'cise Price	CALLS Mar.	CALLS June	CALLS Sept.	PUTS Mar.	PUTS June	PUTS Sept.
Beecham	330	40	50	58	2	5	7
Beecham	360	17	30	40	8	12	20
Bass	500	25	47	60	7	20	30
Bass	550	2	17	32	37	47	60
BTR	600	92	100	107	2	5	8
BTR	650	44	67	67	8	18	30
De Beers	420c	48	70	87	15	27	40
De Beers	460c	20	42	65	32	48	62
GKN	200	25	32	37	2	8	12
GKN	220	10	19	25	7	18	21
Hanson Tst	200	18	25	31	2	7	14
Hanson Tst	220	8	16	22	2	16	19
Jaguar	330	28	33	38	10	14	17
Jaguar	360	8	20	28	2	22	27
Tesco	230	12	18	25	13	9	13
Tesco	250	3	9	14	4	18	23
FT-SE 100	1250	48	68	93	15	37	55
FT-SE 100	1300	16	45	70	30	57	86

TOTAL CONTRACTS: 10,387

BRITISH FUNDS

(Share price lists for British Funds, Commonwealth & African Stocks, Corporation Stocks, Foreign Stocks, Dollar Stocks, Banks, Discount, HP, Breweries, Buildings & Roads, Chemicals, Plastics, Cinemas & TV, Drapery & Stores, Electrical & Radio, Financial Trusts, Food & Catering, Industrials, Insurance, Investment Trusts, Leather & Shoes, Mining, Property, Motors & Aircraft, Oil Shares and Papers & Publishers are printed in very small, degraded type.)

LEATHER & SHOES

1984-85 High	1984-85 Low	Stock	Price	+ or −
595	332	Church & Co.	505	+10
242	190	FII Group	228*	$+5\frac{1}{2}$
200	145	Garner Booth	192	..
48	32	Headlam Sims	33	..
217	164	Lambert, Hth.	217	..
133	71	Newbld&Brtn	70*	$-\frac{1}{2}$
112	78	Pittard Grp.	112	+16
233	105	Strong&Fisher	143	+1
206	79	Stylo	198	+15

* ex-div † ex-scrip § ex-rights ‡ ex-all ** quotation temp suspended a ex-capital return z unlisted security † Tax free to non-residents

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INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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Sears enters Fosters arena

A WHITE-KNIGHT, believed to be Sears Holdings, has appeared on the scene in the battle for control of menswear retailer *Foster Brothers*, which yesterday confirmed it is in talks with a third party that may result in a recommended offer for the group.

Foster Brothers, which has received "*opportunistic*" share exchange offer from the fast *growing Ward White*, jumped 20p to 228p, capitalising the group at £106·8m—some £14·7m more than the value of the Ward White offer.

Sears, which has admitted "looking at" the Foster Brothers takeover was not prepared to comment on the situation yesterday.

Process slowdown

MARKET newcomer Process *Systems, the North Carolina-based* energy management systems *group, reports a slowdown in* after tax earnings from $633,000 *to $603,000 in the six months to* Dec. 31. The forecast of $2·9m *for the year is repeated.*

Questor—P22

Stylo goes 'close'

FOLLOWING recent transactions in the low voting shares of Stylo, the shoe retailing and manufacturing group, the directors consider that it will now be a close company for tax purposes.

A close company is controlled by its directors and relatives. It appears that the Ziff family controls over 50 p.c. of the entire issued share capital in addition to control through the enhanced voting management shares.

Commercial Property—P23

Antiques offer

WILLIAM BEDFORD, dealer in antique furniture, is coming to the unlisted securities market after an offer for sale of 1·5m Ordinary 5p shares (31·6 p.c.) of the enlarged share capital) at a minimum tender price of 100p.

Brokers Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee are making the offer.

Pre-tax profits last year rose from £270,000 to £654,000 on turnover 73 p.c. up at £2·6m. For the current year dividends of not less than 3·5p a share are forecast.

At the minimum tender price the company is capitalised at £4·75m and the indicated gross dividend yield is 5 p.c.

Harrisons buying

HARRISONS & Crosfield, making a £114m disputed bid for Pauls, has bought a further 852,500 shares in the target company. Harrisons now owns more than seven million shares in Pauls, or some 22½ p.c.

Intasun stake

PRIVATE British holiday company Iberiatravel continues to add to its share stake in Intasun Leisure Group. It has purchased *a further 450,000 shares*, increasing its holding to 4·62m shares, representing *8·9 p.c. of Intasun* equity.

Nikkei drops

SHARE prices in Tokyo fell fairly sharply yesterday for the third day running. The Nikkei-Dow Jones market average closed *83·68 points lower at 12,263·85*, the first time the average has *closed below 12,300 since Feb. 27.* The decline was attributed to *renewed profit taking and an* uncertain Wall Street.

Fewer failures

***TRADE INDEMNITY*, the credit insurance company, reports that 367 business failures were notified by its policy-holders in February, a decline of 7·1 p.c. on February 1984.**

***However, in the 12 months to* end-February a total of 3,933 failures were *notified, giving* an average monthly total of 328. This represented *virtually* no change on a year earlier and only a marginal *decline from the* January 1985 peak.**

WORLD MARKETS

AMSTERDAM (ANP CBS Gen)	206·20	+ 0·30
BRUSSELS (Stock index)	1,123·93	−11·91
FRANKFURT (Commerzbank)	1,205·3	+ 2·2
HONGKONG (Hang Seng)	1,380·11	−15·16
NEW YORK (Dow Jones)	1,268·77	− 0·89
PARIS (CAC General)	207·20	+ 0·90
SYDNEY (All Ord.)	783·9	− 4·1
TOKYO (Nikkei Dow)	12,263·85	−83·68
ZURICH (Credit Suisse)	341·00	− 0·20

U.S. RATES

Federal funds	8¼ p.c.	(8½ p.c.)
Treas. 3-mth bills	8·50-45	(8·62-57)
Long bonds	$96·10	($96·12)
Yield	11·70 p.c.	(11·69 p.c.)

FT—ACTUARIES INDICES

Industrial Group	633·68	(+4·72)
" 500 "	680·25	(+2·63)
All-Share	622·09	(+2·69)

Industry costs soar by 9·5pc in 12 months

By FRANCES WILLIAMS

THE pound's slide against the dollar *has put strong* upward pressure on industry's costs, latest Government figures show.

Prices of fuel and raw materials bought by manufacturing rose by 9·5 p.c. in the year to February—the highest yearly increase since September, 1983—from 8·8 p.c. in January.

Over the past few months companies have largely absorbed the steep rise in input costs. Prices charged to wholesalers *last month were 6·1 p.c. higher* than a year earlier *against 6·2* p.c. in January.

But *there are signs of* some acceleration in producer price *inflation outside the food, drink* and tobacco sector where raw *material costs* have risen by less than 2 p.c. in the past year. By contrast the rest of manufacturing has seen the cost of its inputs soar by 14·9 p.c.

These companies put up their prices for goods leaving the *factories by 0·8 p.c. in February* after a 1·2 p.c. increase in *January*. This compares with increases averaging 0·3 to 0·5 p.c. a month in the second half of last year and takes the annual increase to 6·5 p.c. from just above 5·5 p.c. before the turn of the year.

A *growing proportion of* companies questioned in the regular *surveys of manufacturing* by the Confederation of British Industry have said they plan to increase prices in the next few months.

The Government now accepts that its hopes of achieving 4·5 p.c. inflation by the end of the year are unlikely to be achieved.

The Treasury forecast to be published on Budget Day is expected to show inflation *peaking at about 5·5 p.c. in the* second quarter this year, declining to its present level of around 5 p.c. by the year-end.

This would be rather more optimistic than the ouside consensus which centres on an inflation *rate of about 5·5 p.c. in* the fourth quarter.

The depreciation of sterling against the dollar has been chiefly to blame for halting inflation's downward trend. Gavyn Davies, of stockbrokers Simon & Coates, estimates that if sterling's average value had remained at its level of a year ago, rather than falling by 12 p.c., inflation *today would be* about 3·5 p.c. and declining

Of the 1·2 p.c. increase in raw materials prices last month more than a third was accounted for by higher prices for petroleum products which are priced in dollars.

Other commodity prices also increased in sterling terms as the pound fell a further 3 p.c. against the dollar after a 5 p.c. drop in January.

Sterling's slide has more than outweighed the decline in dollar-*denominated world commodity* prices. According to THE *ECONOMIST* commodity price index sterling prices have risen *by 15·5 p.c. over the past year*, compared with a drop in dollar terms of 18 p.c.

This adverse pressure on costs is particularly worrying for the Government at a sensitive stage of the present pay round. Higher pay deals, *compounded* by slowing productivity gains *which have until now cushioned* companies against rapid earn*ings growth, could set domesti*cally generated inflation on a *rising course* which would be hard to put into reverse.

Al Fayeds secure control of Fraser

By MICHAEL BECKET

THE Egyptian Al-Fayed family has gained control of the House of Fraser chain of department stores with a string of share purchases yesterday costing £123·5 *million, which took its* holding to 51·03 p.c.

As a result its £615 million takeover bid for Fraser has gone unconditional on acceptances, though it is still waiting clearance from the Department of Trade. A decision from Mr Tebbit, Trade and Industry Secretary *is expected tomorrow on* whether the offer is to be referred for examination to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Tebbit is also expected to say whether the earlier ruling still holds that Lonrho should not hold more than 30 p.c. of *Fraser. Tiny Rowland, chief* executive of Lonrho, has been *stalking* Fraser for just over eight years, but has been repeatedly frustrated.

In November Lonrho sold its 29·9 p.c. holding to Al-fayed Investment Trust for £138·3 million, which provided the basis for last week's bid. But in the meantime Lonrho had *returned to the market and* built up another stake of 6·3 p.c. in Fraser *for £29·4 million*, which it sold yesterday to Al-fayed for £39·1 million.

Al-fayed then continued buying at the bid value of 403·5p a share (equal to the 400p a share offered plus the final dividend of 3·5p) spending a further £84·4 million. Fraser chairman Prof. Roland Smith, who has backed the offer, yes*terday said he was pleased the* Al-Fayed brothers had gained control and "look forward to working with them."

But Lonrho claimed not to have given up all its hopes of gaining control of Fraser—it retained 50,000 shares and has been pressing for an investigation by the Monopolies Commission. If the deal is indeed referred, Paul Spicer, Lonrho director, expects the Fraser shares to drop to 250p. Yesterday the shares eased 2p to 400p.

Lonrho has also questioned the *availability of funds for the* deal but Kleinwort Benson said *it is satisfied Al-fayed* "has available the resources sufficient to satisfy full acceptance of the offer."

Prof. Smith made a plea yesterday that after the years of bitter battle by Lonrho to control Fraser "the 25,000 people employed in the House of Fraser *now deserve a period of quiet.*"

Lonrho, which said it had *made a total profit of £80 mil*lion in dealing in Fraser shares, is to see Mr Tebbit today at his request.

Mercury £3·5m for ducts network

MERCURY Communications yesterday completed *negotiations* to buy a 150-mile network of ducts under central London to provide the basis for a major expansion of an optical fibre based telecommunications system.

The company, a subsidiary of Cable & Wireless, has paid £3·5 million to buy the 100-year-old network controlled by London Hydraulic Power from a consortium headed by N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bankers.

The Rothschild group has shown a 100 p.c. profit on the initial London Hydraulic purchase price which valued the business at £1·5 million. Rothschild and a group of private clients had a 55 p.c. *stake in the consortium.*

The network was used for a water-powered system for lifts, *hoists and raising Tower* Bridge at one stage.

Spot oil prices turn easier

OIL prices showed signs of *weakening in spot-market trad*ing yesterday after earlier *increases which pushed North* Sea crudes through the official level of $28·65 a barrel.

Prices for prompt delivery of Brent were just below the official level and quotations for shipment next month were down slightly at $27·45. But May prices dropped 15 cents to finish at $26·65, a discount of $2 on the official price.

There is some nervousness about the prospect of more Saudi Arabian barter deals although traders feel a mooted *$2 billion French fighter planes*-for-oil arrangement will not *have the same impact as last* year's Boeing jets agreement.

The plan is to extend crude deliveries, estimated at 70,000 barrels a day over a three-year period, according to the latest edition of PETROLEUM INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY, the oil industry newsletter.

Shop sales take upward turn

By DAVID GREEN

SHOP sales picked up in February, according to official estimates published yesterday, despite the rise in mortgage payments and the bad weather.

Spending pushed up volume sales by about 1 p.c. over January which had shown a drop of about 3·5 p.c. from the record *level achieved in December.*

The Retail Consortium, which represents the majority of *Britain's* shopkeepers, says the February performance was "*generally good*," showing a 4 p.c. real growth over the previous February.

The Department of Trade and Industry's provisional estimate *for its index of retail sales vol*ume for February is 113·9 *(1980 = 100), which compares* with 112·8 for January and 117 for December.

In the three months December to February sales were 0·5 p.c. higher than in the previous three months and 5 p.c. higher than in the corresponding period a year earlier.

In cash terms the value of sales in February was 8 p.c. higher than in February, 1984

The Retail Consortium *said* that the high level of credit *sales was continuing and this* was a good indication of consumer confidence. Government figures published earlier this month revealed that a record *£1·16 billion of credit was* advanced in January.

It said that the rise in mortgage rates had had no significant impact and that retailers in general were "cautiously optimistic" for prospects for *the year as a whole.*

The bad weather had affected clothing and footwear because stores were beginning to display spring fashion following the end of the January sales. But children's clothing did well because of the half-term.

Sales returns from the department *stores in the John Lewis* Partnership support the claim of a fundamental buoyancy in the retail sector.

In the first five weeks of its *current year to March 2 sales* were 13 p.c. up on the corresponding period of *1984* against a first half target of a 10 p.c. rise.

Sales in the Waitrose supermarkets returned a 13·3 p.c. *rise over the same five weeks* compared with a projected increase of 9·1 p.c.

Food price inflation, according to the index run by the GROCER *magazine, fell again in Febru*ary by 0·3 p.c. to 7·1 p.c. On a non-seasonally adjusted basis inflation was running at only 2·7 p.c. over 12 months.

CITY COMMENT

The markets get worked up about base rate cut

THE MARKETS got all excited *about the prospect of an early* cut in base rates yesterday, the discount houses tried to hold on *to their bills in the hope of a quick* profit, the analysts became distinctly bullish about the February *money supply figures due* out today, the gilt-edged market staged a useful rally, and the *Government broker sold out of* Treasury 10½ p.c. 1999 stock. But the Bank of England gave no encouragement for an immediate cut in base rates, and the chances of a reduction before the Budget next Tuesday remain a little less than 50-50.

Lloyds Bank's economic forecaster Christopher Johnson set the ball rolling, predicting a fall of *1 p.c. to 1·5 p.c. in* base rates in the near future. Three-month deposits in the inter-bank market *immediately fell by around 13·5* p.c., a good ⅜ p.c. down on last week, and the discount houses facing *an estimated shortage initially* estimated at £550 million were only willing to sell £73 million worth of bills, *all in Bands One and Two.* They held on to the rest of their portfolios in the hope that the Bank of England would concede them a "repo" which would enable *them to borrow cash and buy back* bills at current rates in return for a fixed charge.

The Bank eventually concurred, but it offered a sale and repurchase *for only £263 million. The cash* shortage in the money markets was revised up to £650 million, and even after injecting another £180 million of "late lending" direct to *the market the authorities had put* only £516 million into the market.

Three-month money in the inter-bank market which Barclays Bank uses as a yardstick to align its own base lending rate, edged on down *to 13⅜ p.m., down ½ p.c. on the day*, which is enough to justify a ½ p.c. cut in base rates. But two-month deposits still traded around 13⅝-13¾ p.c., and one-month deposits were barely ¼ p.c. lower at 14 p.c.

Sterling was certainly looking a little stronger yesterday, gaining *almost two cents to close at* $1·0880, helped by the continuing firmness of North Sea oil prices. The pound's trade-weighted average also rose, but the most important factor in the foreign exchanges *was a bout of profit-taking in the* dollar, which fell 5½ pfennigs to 3·3385 marks.

Today, the market will be taking the measure of the money supply figures. Expectation for sterling M3 range between minus ½ p.c. and plus ½ p.c., and a minus figure will definitely encourage fresh speculation for an early cut in base rates. But after recent experiences it would be *rash to risk upsetting* the incipient rally in sterling with a premature cut in base rates.

Last year Barclays Bank produced a curious ¼ p.c. cut to 8·75 p.c. a week before the Budget, but whatever the intention it failed to impress and the market had to *wait* until the day after the Budget for a more decisive move.

David Kern at National Westminster is sticking to his recent *forecast of a token cut in base* rates around the time of the Budget, falling to 12 p.c. by mid-*year and 10 p.c. by the year end*, with room for humps and bumps in between.

Bill Martin at Phillips & Drew is even more cautious in the short term. He feels the City is still worried that the Chancellor may recover enough courage after *sterling's recent rally to gamble* on letting the public sector borrowing requirement rise above the £7 *billion target set in the medium*-term financial strategy.

BNOC flexible pricing urged

THE Commons Select Committee on Energy has wasted little time after a quick investigation into oil pricing in telling the Government *to allow the British National Oil* Corporation to operate a market-related system that would avoid trading losses.

"The risks of short-term fluctuations in the oil market are risks *which should generally be borne* by the oil companies and not by the taxpayers," the committee said tartly. "Only if clearly defined national issues are at stake should taxpayers' funds be employed," the report added.

The committee's report, rushed out in advance of Thursday's debate on the *latest £25 million* subsidy to the corporation, questions the Government's whole pricing strategy and urges ministers to come clean about whether Britain *is behaving as an unofficial* member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The Government is unlikely to provide a clear answer. Its main concern has been to avoid taking any action which would create the slightest flutter in an oil market *still dubious about Opec's ability* to maintain price and production stability.

Ministers have been unwilling to give the corporation freedom because they believe that the subsidy to cover the difference between its buying and selling price is a small sum to pay to protect North Sea revenue and avoid putting even more pressure on the pound.

The committee, however, wants no truck with a policy that means extra calls on the taxpayer. "*Collaboration with the Opec* cartel, tax cuts financed from windfall North Sea revenue and the cushioning of oil companies from market realities are all secondary *to the long-term economic well*-being of the United Kingdom and *its Western allies*," the MPs argued.

Insolvency Bill 'damaging'

THE Government's Bill to amend the insolvency laws, now passing *through Parliament*, has come under renewed attack from Promotion of Non-Executive Directors, the organisation set up by City institutions and business.

In its third annual report PRONED says it strongly supports the broad aims of the Government, "namely that rogues should not *be allowed to abuse the framework* of the Companies Acts with impunity and that creditors should *be better protected than they are.*"

But, it adds, "these laudable aims coupled with the equally laudable aim of economy in administration have led the Government to propose a potentially *damaging legal framework involving* the automatic disqualification of the directors of every company which is compulsorily wound up."

The organisation, which exists to bring about the wider and better use of non-executive directors, reports that the total number of *appointments with which it has* been associated now stands at 124, of which 50 were made in the past year.

Director Jonathan Charkham says that though PRONED now charges for its placement services demand has not been dampened *and may have* been stimulated.

The number of "eminently well suited" people coming forward to serve as non-executive directors has improved considerably — there are now more than 1,000 on the register — thanks to co-operation from major companies.

But companies are *criticised* for lack of information in their annual reports. PRONED wants to see *details of* what directors do and, if they are non-executive, what their backgrounds are. Some reports do not differentiate between the two classes of directors. Shareholders are urged to press for more information.

PRONED's telephone number is 01-583 8033.

Building society cash inflow tumbles

BUILDING societies' net retail cash inflow fell from £823 mil*lion to £174 million last month*, and there was a net outflow of £156 million in commercially-raised money. Societies' liquidity ratios are now their lowest for 21 months as cash reserves are used to meet mortgage demand.

***Societies need net retail* inflows of £800 million a month *to meet mortgage demand*, but yesterday the Building Societies Association warned that March's inflow would not reach that level.**

Gross retail receipts in February at £3·98 million were the lowest since June last year. Repayments of past sums raised on the wholesale money markets were a record £966 million, *however, and exceeded the £810* million of new commercial cash raised.

Dixons sells TV rental business in £28m deal

THE Carousel TV rental busi*ness which Dixons got as part* of its £248 million takeover of Currys is to be sold for £28 million to Electronic Rentals Group, in which Philips has a 25 p.c. stake.

The provisional deal sparks a new battle between the top rental groups, with Granada *busy absorbing the Rediffusion* business it bought for £120 mil*lion from BET.*

That sale took Grenada above Electronic Rentals into second place behind Thorn *EMI*, whose chain include Radio Rentals, DER and Multibroadcast. Electronic Rentals owns the Visionhire chain and comes hard on the heels of Grenada with the 210,000 colour sets and video recorders being bought from Dixons.

The price is £27 million for rental assets and £1 million for properties and vehicles with completion on May 2 when 85 p.c. *of money will be paid in* cash. The rest will be paid three *months later.*

It will be met by "drawing *upon existing bank facilities* and support from Philips Electronic." The *Philips* arrangement will be extension for a further two years of a £10 million subordinated loan.

Electronic Rentals said it would bring a temporary rise in gearing

Dollar plunges as Fed admits intervention

By JAMES SRODES in Washington

*NEWS that the Federal Re*serve joined in concerted cur*rency market intervention last* week sent the dollar sparwling yesterday. But America's bond and stock markets held firm.

In a semi-annual report on foreign currency dealings Federal Reserve executive vice-president Sam Cross said that the United States intervened in foreign exchange markets a total of seven times in the six months ending January 31, *with two of those interventions coming on the heels of the mid*-January meeting of the group *of five finance ministers.*

Although he would not comment on how many times since January 31 the Fed has intervened, Mr Cross did confirm *that the central bank stepped* into the market last week in a concerted effort to drive the dollar down.

Mr Cross reaffirmed, however, that in spite of the apparent pick-up in intervention activity on the *part of the Fed*: "*No one in the United States* feels that intervention alone is a panacea or that it will work miracles."

In the six months ended January 31 the Fed's intervention was limited to buying marks and selling dollars and the sales total was $373 million.

The pound closed in New York at $1·0900, against $1·0660 on Friday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed 0·89 lower at 1,268·77.

Barclays plans U.S. expansion

THE California subsidiary of Barclays Bank has agreed to buy 11 retail branches plus the credit card and leasing business of the California-Canadian Bank.

The purchase will mean that Barclays Bank of California Inc. will have 55 retail banking outlets throughout the state.

The purchase is subject to regulatory agency approval and may take four to six months to *bring to completion.*

WHAT THE BUDGET MEANS (rather than what it says).

March 19th will be a testing day for the experts in Price Waterhouse.

Some will be giving incisive comment, to both clients and the media, as the Chancellor presents his case.

Some will be spending the evening answering the more technical enquiries of the members of the press.

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73-8	56-7	Am'n Spec. Sits. Tst	65-1	69-0
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172-8	158-5	Asset Value Tst	163-0	172-8
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107-5	93-8	Smaller Co's Tst	94-2	99-9
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351-4	229-4	European Fd Acc	308-9	321-4
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856-5	538-8	Bishop Intl Feb 28	808-2	*856-5
1043-3	705-2	Accum Feb 28	1000-4	*1043-3
153-7	143-1	Beckman March 6	176-2	183-4
105-3	79-0	Can & For Mar 7	99-1	105-3
109-6	98-3	Accum Mar 7	102-2	109-6

BRIDGE FUND MNGRS (A) (C)
Regis House, King William St, E.C.4
01-623 4951

86-3	50-0	America Gen. Inc	80-2	*86-3
85-3	50-1	America Gen. Acc	79-9	85-0
113-7	84-0	Inco-me Fund	104-0	113-7
116-2	86-4	Capital Inc	108-0	116-2
117-8	109-4	Capital Acc	117-5	107-9
257-0	230-0	Capital Gtr	230-0	246-9
42-2	34-5	Intnl. Recovery Inc	38-5	41-7
55-2	44-8	Intnl. Recovery Acc	50-1	54-2

BRITANNIA GROUP OF UNIT TRUSTS LIMITED.
Salisbury House, 29 Finsbury Circus, London EC2. 01-588 2777
Dealing 01-638 6476/6479

102-8	95-2	American Growth	95-7	*99-9
61-7	50-0	American Income	56-6	59-1
58-1	19-6	American Smaller Cos	27-1	27-1
73-1	61-7	Amer. Cap. Special Sits	75-9	81-0
93-4	61-5	Australian Growth	73-5	79-2
162-2	123-8	Commodity Shares	147-8	157-7
62-5	48-2	European Gth. Co's	54-1	57-6
61-5	52-0	Exempt	57-5	60-3
69-0	52-2	Exempt Mkt Leaders	62-0	64-9
56-8	42-4	Extra Income	49-8	*52-1
47-3	33-2	Far East	43-4	45-4
38-5	28-5	Financial Securities	36-1	38-5
28-6	25-6	Gilt	25-3	26-6
34-3	21-2	Gold & General	21-9	23-6
89-3	65-5	Growth Gilt	83-2	89-2
28-4	15-5	Hong Kong Perf	25-4	27-1
141-2	122-8	Income & Growth	130-4	140-2
32-3	23-9	Intnl. Growth	29-3	31-3
14-1	8-9	Intnl. Leisure Mkt	12-8	13-7
46-2	41-1	Japan Performance	41-7	*44-9
13-5	10-7	Japan Smaller Co's	11-9	12-7
155-5	117-6	National High Inc.	144-6	154-1
19-9	17-8	Preference Shares	16-9	*18-0
41-7	32-9	Property Shares	39-1	*41-7
98-1	80-2	Recovery	86-1	91-7
119-9	91-0	Smaller Companies	109-6	*116-9
81-5	61-9	Special Sits. Sits	74-7	79-7
37-6	26-0	U.K. Growth	31-5	33-6
65-8	62-2	Universal Energy	65-1	*69-4
54-6	40-7	World Technology	49-4	52-7

BROWN SHIPLEY & CO.
Founders Court, Lothbury, London EC2R 7HE
01-606 1001

52-6	42-5	Brown Shipley Fund	49-9	*52-6
85-2	66-7	Accum.	79-3	85-2
102-1	76-5	Financial	95-1	*101-6
179-6	115-2	Japan Smaller Co's	166-1	178-6
117-3	88-0	Growth Inc.	109-1	117-3
58-7	57-9	High Inc.	47-3	*50-9
57-5	44-8	Income Fund	55-8	58-7
62-1	43-4	North American	55-8	59-7
58-0	43-9	Orient Fund	55-2	57-2
28-7	22-7	Recovery	26-7	28-7
176-5	137-7	Technology Fund	156-3	168-1

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT COMPANY LTD.
The Stock Exchange, EC2P 2JT
01-588 2368

130-0	96-3	Buckmaster Intnl Fd	124-5	*130-0
53-5	66-4	Buckmast. Int. Fd.	75-4	80-7
173-5	129-9	Buckmaster Gen Fd	165-9	173-5
1100-0	808-2	Buckmaster Sm. Co Fd	1000-2	1067-4

CANADA LIFE
78-3	72-3	Can. Life Gen. Dist.	69-6	*75-3
182-5	179-4	Can. Life Gen. Acc.	138-1	148-4
61-7	52-3	Can. Life Inc. Dist.	61-4	64-7

CANNON FUND MANAGERS LIMITED
1, Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx.
HA9 0NB. 01-902 8376

265-9	152-5	Income	214-7	228-2
117-5	106-7	Far East	138-9	148-6
116-2	91-0	North American	134-7	143-3
226-2	174-5	Growth	213-2	225-8

CHIEFTAIN TRUST MANAGERS
11 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
01-283 1963

21-8	20-3	Gilt & Fix. In	19-4	20-6
47-0	38-5	High Income	39-8	*42-7
43-4	32-1	Inc. & Grth.	38-5	*41-5
38-3	27-2	Special	35-0	*37-4
71-4	53-6	International	64-2	68-9
38-5	29-5	Capital	34-9	37-5
54-9	39-8	American	46-9	*52-4
27-4	19-9	Australian	19-6	20-0
76-2	56-2	Japan	71-0	76-1

CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TST MANAGERS LTD.
Narrow Plain, Bristol, BS2 6JH.
(0272) 277719

1984-5 High	Low	Name	Bid	Offer
50-2	25-0	General Equity	29-0	29-9
31-0	23-0	Equity High Inc	28-3	*30-2
25-9	24-3	Gilt & Fixd Int Grth	25-8	25-6
26-0	24-4	Indexed Seca	24-5	26-0

CONFEDERATION FUND MNGMT
173-7	125-6	Growth Fund	161-8	170-3

COUNTY BANK UNIT SERVICES LTD
336-2	179-2	Capital Trust	215-9	227-4
64-0	49-5	Energy	52-0	*55-3
153-2	104-7	Extra Income	123-2	131-0
104-3	74-6	Financial Trust	96-6	102-7
52-7	49-5	Gilt Strategy	51-7	52-7
238-7	177-4	Growth Invest. Tst	218-8	232-7
107-1	80-1	Income Trust	98-8	105-1
94-1	62-3	Japanese Pac. Grth	83-7	*89-0
109-2	72-2	North Am. Grth Trst	94-4	100-4
151-3	119-7	Portfolio Invest. Fd.	140-5	147-1
105-5	75-8	Recovery Trust	95-6	102-0
151-0	111-5	Smaller Companies	141-5	*150-5

CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES LTD
Crown Life House, Woking GU21 1XW
(04862) 24933

180-2	143-8	Crown High Inc. Tst	166-5	178-1
178-6	151-7	Crown Growth Trust	164-0	*175-4
127-3	97-9	Crown American Tst.	115-7	123-7

EFM UNIT TST MNGMT LTD
4 Melville Cres., Edinburgh EH3 7JB
031-226 3492 (Dealers)

111-7	91-5	Grth & Inc Fd	104-4	*111-7
197-2	134-8	Int Fd	178-0	190-4
127-7	90-7	Tokyo Fd	115-9	123-5
83-8	60-7	American Fd	75-1	80-3
68-1	46-5	Capital Fd	63-7	68-1
97-2	67-9	High Dist Fd	83-5	89-3
39-9	28-7	Res Fd	36-8	39-4
27-6	24-5	Smaller Jap. Comps.	24-5	26-2

EQUITABLE UNITS ADMIN LIMITED
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF
061-236 5685

300-7	223-8	Equitable Pelican	292-6	309-7
59-3	50-0	Far Eastern	54-3	57-8
50-3	46-5	Gilt & Fixed Int	47-2	50-3
56-5	50-0	High Income	54-1	56-5
63-3	50-0	North American	55-1	60-2
56-8	50-0	Special Sit.	53-3	56-8
56-9	50-0	Trust of Inv Tst	55-3	58-9

EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MNGRS LTD
Amersham Road, High Wycombe
0494 33377

123-7	93-6	UK Growth Tst. Acc.	113-4	120-6
110-6	86-4	UK Growth Tst. Inc.	103-1	109-6
174-5	112-4	Richer Inc. Tst. Acc.	164-1	174-5
149-7	104-5	Richer Inc. Tst. Inc.	140-8	149-7
97-7	77-4	Gilt & Fixd Int Tst. Acc.	93-8	97-7
91-4	71-4	Gilt & Fixd Int Tst. Inc.	73-2	*77-0
57-6	50-0	North Am Tst Acc.	142-0	151-0
70-4	55-5	Far East Tst Acc.	100-0	108-5
53-8	50-0	Europe Tst Acc.	87-8	*93-3
205-3	152-8	General Tst	191-2	203-5

FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT LTD.
River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DY
0732 362222

106-2	69-3	American Trust	95-9	102-1
33-2	25-0	Amer. Enty'nceeTst.	34-9	37-2
63-2	42-5	American Spec Sit Tst.	59-3	63-7
105-7	75-6	Japan Trust	93-9	99-8
30-8	21-7	Japan Spec Sits Tst.	27-7	*29-5
57-9	41-4	Max. Income Fund Tst	54-5	*57-9
106-2	71-8	Special Situations Tst.	96-7	103-1
31-7	25-0	South East Asia Trst.	29-8	31-7
31-5	28-2	Gilt & Fixd Int Trst.	28-4	29-5
73-7	49-4	Growth & Income Tst	69-2	73-7
95-9	64-0	Managed Intnnl Tst	86-9	*91-6

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MNGT LTD
1 Laurence Pountney Hill, EC4 R0BA
01-623 4680

82-5	67-8	F&C American Fd	75-4	78-6
105-4	76-0	F&C Capital Fd	96-1	102-8
60-7	40-8	F&C Far East Fd	54-7	58-6
54-7	50-0	F&C Fixed Int Fd	52-7	54-7
65-8	51-0	F&C Income Fd	61-6	65-8
64-1	49-6	F&C Nat Res Fd	57-5	60-8
65-6	49-9	F&C Overseas Inc Fd	61-0	65-3

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MNGT LTD
3 London Wall Buildings, EC2M 5NQ
01-628 5181

224-4	158-4	American & Gen. Fd.	205-6	218-6
236-6	160-0	American & Gen. Fd Acc	207-6	220-8
215-2	151-4	American Turnaround Fd	194-5	207-0
220-0	154-8	American Turnaround Acc	198-8	211-4
159-0	107-4	Capital Tst	149-5	159-3
185-4	122-6	Capital Tst. Acc.	174-4	185-4
80-2	65-2	Conv. & Gilt Tst.	75-4	80-2
100-4	79-8	Conv. & Gilt Tst Acc	94-2	100-4
118-5	83-2	Extra Inc. Acc.	111-4	*118-4
120-4	85-2	Extra Inc. Tst.	113-9	120-4
91-0	67-0	Income Tst	85-6	91-0
91-0	80-0	Income Tst Acc	85-6	91-0
165-0	125-6	Intl. Growth Fd	151-6	161-2
180-8	137-4	Intl. Growth Fd Acc.	168-2	176-6
67-0	44-4	Japan & Gen. Fd	62-8	*65-8
69-2	44-4	Japan & Gen. Acc.	62-2	66-0
60-0	50-0	Monthly Inc. Fd.	56-2	*59-5
90-0	77-0	Recovery Tst	86-6	*104-8
111-4	80-0	Recovery Tst. Acc.	104-6	111-2

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey
0306 885055

118-8	97-7	Fixed Int Dist	100-4	107-3
116-3	101-4	Fixed Int Acc	106-5	113-9
169-8	156-3	Equity Units Dist	156-6	167-8
273-8	200-9	Equity Units Acc	255-7	270-5
130-6	95-5	Stewardship Dist	122-4	128-8
131-8	95-5	Stewardship Acc	124-6	132-8

FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD.
150, West George St, Glasgow, G2 2PA
041-332 6462

2201	1100-0	Balanced Growth Fd	205-9	220-1

G & A TRUST
95-2	70-5	G & A	89-6	95-0

G.T. UNIT MANAGERS
8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq., London EC2M 4YJ
01-623 2575. Dealing: 01-626 9421

157-4	115-0	G.T. European Fund	143-9	*154-0
95-7	65-1	G.T. Far East & Gen Fd	88-9	95-1
67-9	53-0	G.T. Income Fund	62-6	*67-0
125-6	84-0	G.T. International Fd.	113-9	*121-9
175-6	119-6	G.T. Japan & Gen. Fd	153-9	164-5
102-7	97-4	G.T. Liquid Reserve	98-9	99-0
153-5	110-5	G.T. Pension Exempt	144-9	151-8
85-7	62-1	G.T. Tech & Grth Fd	82-3	88-1
75-8	54-0	G.T. UK Capital Inc.	69-6	74-5
103-9	57-3	G.T. UK Capital Acc.	97-1	103-9
59-7	48-4	G.T. U.S. & Gen. Fd.	53-2	56-9

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
2-6 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8EP
01-623 1212
Unit dealing: 01-623 5766

98-7	68-5	American Trust	88-3	95-0
24-7	17-6	Australian Trust	19-6	20-8
34-1	25-0	British Trust (Acc)	33-6	36-1
41-5	31-3	British Trust (Dist)	39-0	41-5
76-3	61-6	Diversified Share Tst	67-7	72-1
29-8	23-9	European Trust	27-9	29-7
39-1	29-3	Extra Income Trust	35-6	39-0
94-6	54-0	Far Eastern Trust	87-3	92-6
27-2	24-8	Fixed Interest Trust	24-4	26-0
35-1	32-1	Gilt Trust	32-2	35-3
65-1	52-0	Global Fund (Acc)	115-3	122-5
120-7	95-3	Global Fund (Dist)	111-2	118-3
23-0	16-5	Good Share Trust	16-0	17-1
106-1	84-1	High Income Trust	101-1	107-5
37-5	17-3	Hong Kong Trust	29-8	31-8
31-2	25-0	Income Fund	27-4	29-3
84-8	56-5	Japan Trust	77-3	82-3
41-4	33-1	Oil & Energy Trust	38-9	41-4
75-6	54-3	Special Sits. Trust	71-0	75-6
49-0	38-2	U.K. Small Co. Rec Tst	45-8	48-7

JOHN GOVETT UNIT MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Winchester House, 77 London Wall
London EC2N 1DH. 01-588 5620

72-6	49-8	Intnl Grth Fd	66-2	70-8
70-4	48-8	Amer Grth Fd	62-7	66-4
74-1	50-0	Amer Inc Fd	66-3	*70-9
113-6	88-7	Euro Grth Fd	105-6	112-9
59-3	46-3	Gold & Nat Fd	48-7	49-9
107-7	62-7	Japan Grth Fd	97-8	104-7
72-5	48-3	Pacific Inc Fd	66-0	70-5
66-6	50-0	U.K. Spc Ops Fd	64-2	68-5

GRANVILLE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LIMITED
8, Lovatt Lane, EC3 8DT. 01-621 1212
51-5 | 48-5 | Granville Capital | 49-2 | 51-5

GRIEVESON MANAGEMENT
BARRINGTON FUNDS.
See Barrington Management Co Ltd.

GROFUND MANAGERS LIMITED
Pioneers Hall, 8/9 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2AE. 01-588 5317

50-4	40-2	American Tst	22-4	85-7
79-1	53-5	Equity Tst	68-0	72-3
63-2	50-0	European Tst	60-8	63-2
64-0	50-0	Gilt Tst	52-2	55-0
65-3	50-0	Japan Tst	79-8	84-0

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE UNIT MANAGERS LIMITED
Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3LS
01-638 2020

258-4	192-1	Guardhill Tst	236-8	245-3
116-0	111-3	Gilt & Fixed Int. Tst	109-7	*114-0
130-4	113-1	Growth Equity Tst	125-5	130-4
149-9	92-9	North American Tst	134-2	142-8
102-2	108-3	Pacific Tst	145-9	154-8
170-0	126-5	Smaller Co's Tst	169-1	170-4
156-7	118-0	Property Share Tst	147-2	155-7
129-5	96-0	European Tst	121-7	129-5

HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LIMITED
Premier U.T. Admin., 5 Rayleigh Rd., Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. 0277 227300

51-5	50-0	HBL Canadian	47-2	51-0
65-8	59-2	HBL Equity Income	60-0	63-8
61-0	56-1	HBL European	56-1	59-7
79-8	70-3	HBL Japan & Far E	75-9	79-8
69-3	57-6	HBL North Amer	62-6	66-8
67-6	62-0	HBL Scandinavian	59-3	63-1
86-6	78-3	HBL Smaller Co's	81-4	86-6

HENDERSON UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
Premier U.T. Admin., 5 Rayleigh Rd., Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. 0277 217238

89-6	58-5	Australian	69-8	69-7
51-0	36-3	Capital Growth	47-4	50-7
57-5	40-6	Capital Growth (Acc)	54-4	57-1
65-9	40-6	European	53-6	60-6
100-2	73-3	Japan	92-0	98-6
133-3	105-2	High Income	124-6	*133-3
84-3	60-9	Income & Assets	78-8	*84-3
126-2	94-4	International	118-4	126-7
103-4	99-3	North American	98-0	105-9
126-4	97-0	Extra Income	120-1	126-4
85-9	40-5	American Small Co's	57-3	61-6
61-0	52-6	Pacific Smaller Co's	57-0	60-7
112-1	61-8	Income & Growth	104-0	112-1
207-8	143-3	Income & Grth (Acc)	194-4	207-8
175-2	79-8	Special Sits	98-4	*105-2
145-5	108-0	Special Sits (Acc)	126-8	*145-5
79-6	66-8	SmaPer Co's Div'd	72-9	*78-6
57-6	52-9	Fixed Interest	55-3	*55-7
111-8	80-1	Global Tech	102-5	108-7
65-4	42-2	Global Healthcare	52-4	56-0
140-9	91-5	American Recovery	124-6	134-0
108-8	78-5	Japan Special Sits	99-8	106-3
52-9	38-2	Nth.American Emnt.	46-2	49-7
97-0	85-5	Japan Exempt	87-4	93-1
98-3	69-9	Smaller Co's Exmt.	93-1	97-0
98-6	78-8	Financial	90-2	96-1
92-3	72-7	Oil & Natural Res.	80-7	*85-6
51-0	44-4	Pref. & Gilt	45-0	48-2
65-9	61-1	Recovery	73-5	*78-5
50-6	43-5	Gilt	43-5	43-6
51-1	42-1	Singapore & Malay'n

هكذا من الأصل

UNIT TRUST PRICES

PROPERTY EQUITY AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Cumberland House, Baxter Avenue, Southend on Sea, SS2 6HU 0702 333433

1984-85 High	Low	Name	Bid	Offer
267·5	224·2	Flex. Mon Bnd Fnd.	257·1	—
110·6	105·0	Int Man Cur Bnd F	[illegible]	—
100·1	100·0	Tower Managed Inv Fd	[illegible]	—

PROPERTY GROWTH ASSURANCE CO. LTD
Leon House, Croydon, CR9 1LU 01-680 0606

294·5	286·9	Property Fund	299·8	—
285·6	278·2	Property Fund (A)	293·6	—
111·65	111·24	Agricultural Fund	11·65	—
111·20	110·95	Agric. Fund (A)	11·20	—
258·6	230·5	Abbey Nat. Fund	250·0	—
257·0	229·5	Abbey Nat Fd (A)	250·0	—
161·7	154·7	Investment Fund	161·7	—
158·1	151·8	Investment Fd. (A)	158·1	—
456·8	408·7	Equity Fund	456·0	—
545·3	398·5	Equity Fund (A)	531·0	—
241·4	219·0	Money Fund	239·5	—
251·4	215·0	Money Fund (A)	251·4	—
259·5	205·4	Actuarial Fund	259·5	—
335·9	186·9	Gilt-Edged Fund	202·3	—
306·9	105·9	Gilt Edged Fd (A)	202·3	—
385·1	357·4	Retire Annuity	376·1	—
196·0	185·0	Immediate Ann'ty	196·0	—
316·8	237·0	International Fund	312·4	—
316·8	237·0	Interna. Fd (A)	312·5	—
117·2	105·8	Bal. Soc Life Fd	117·2	—

Property Growth Pensions & Annuities Ltd.

357·5	285·5	All W'thr. Acc Uts	314·1	330·6
357·0	278·4	Inv. Fd. Uts	343·4	—
250·0	233·3	Pension Fd. Uts	250·0	—
350·2	287·6	Conv. Pns. Fd	330·2	—
549·1	381·6	Cnv. Pns. Cap. Ut	546·1	—
473·5	385·5	Man. Pens. Fd	442·0	—
315·0	258·3	Man. Pens. Cap. Ut	314·0	—
330·1	284·4	Prop. Pens. Fd	330·1	—
331·0	214·5	Prop. Pens. Cap. Ut	331·0	—
299·6	258·5	Bldg. Soc. Pen. Ut	299·6	—
219·8	197·7	Bldg. Soc. Cap. Ut	219·8	—
189·6	167·4	Gilt Pens. Fd	187·0	—
159·4	142·5	Gilt Pens. Fd. Cap	155·8	—
350·0	293·8	Equity Pens Fd	345·6	—
293·3	218·1	Equity Pens. Fd. Cap	293·2	—
126·9	94·3	Intl. Pens Fd	126·6	—
125·4	88·2	Intl. Pens. Fd. Cap.	125·4	—

PROVIDENT MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION
Willian Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 73906

170·4	159·6	Managed Ord	161·9	173·4
157·5	138·2	Managed Init	149·6	157·5
208·9	159·1	Equity Ord	198·5	208·9
195·4	146·9	Equity Init	183·3	192·9
112·1	97·6	Index Lnk Gilt Ord	106·5	112·1
108·2	96·1	Index Lnk Glt Init	102·8	108·2
188·4	145·4	O'seas Equity Ord	171·9	181·1
174·2	137·1	O'seas Equity Init	161·5	170·0
121·9	110·6	Property Ord	115·8	121·9
112·5	106·2	Property Init	106·9	112·5
127·9	112·3	Fixed Interest Ord	116·8	123·1
119·1	105·9	Fixed Interest Init	109·8	115·6
115·1	107·5	Deposit Ord	109·5	115·1
106·2	103·2	Deposit Init	100·9	106·2
184·9	146·8	Pen Managed Ord	175·7	184·9
170·8	149·3	Pen Managed Init	162·5	173·6
232·4	162·8	Pen Equity Ord	220·2	232·4
214·7	156·3	Pen Equity Init	205·9	214·6
115·1	98·2	Pen Ind Lkd Gilt Ord	109·3	115·1
110·9	98·7	Pen Ind Lkd Gilt Init	105·4	110·9
203·6	152·4	Pen O'seas Eqty Ord	188·5	198·5
188·2	145·7	Pen O'seas Eqty Init	173·1	163·5
129·3	114·3	Pen Property Ord	122·8	129·3
119·4	108·8	Pen Property Init	113·4	119·4
151·9	114·1	Pen Fixed Int Ord	122·2	178·6
128·8	107·6	Pen Fixed Int Init	112·8	118·7
126·8	112·7	Pen Deposit Ord	119·7	126·0
116·4	108·2	Pen Deposit Init	110·6	116·4

PROVIDENCE CAPITOL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Interest	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	International	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Managed	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Special Market	[illegible]	[illegible]

PROVIDENT LIFE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON LTD
246 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QP 01-247 3200

[illegible]	[illegible]	Unit	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Interest	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Index-Linked	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Deposit	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Pension Mixed Ord	[illegible]	[illegible]

For other prices Tel: 01 247 3200

PROVINCIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4BE 0539 23415

[illegible]	[illegible]	Managed Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Interest Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	International Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Money Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Interest Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Technology Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Nth American Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Far Eastern Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Extra Income Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Man Pension Acc Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY

145·1	119·0	Prufund Man. Fd	141·1	149·1

PRUDENTIAL PENSION LIMITED

194·9	145·9	Prubnk Man. Fd	185·1	194·8
134·1	125·5	Prudnk Cash Fd	128·7	134·1

REFUGE INVESTMENTS LIMITED

190·2	151·2	Managed Fd	171·3	181·0
145·5	133·8	Property Fd	138·2	145·5

ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE LTD
New Hall Place, Liverpool, L69 3HS 051-227 4422

431·5	356·8	Royal Shield Fd	407·8	431·5

ROYAL LIFE (UNIT LINKED ASS.) LTD

[illegible]	[illegible]	Managed Fd	[illegible]	176·5
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property Fd	[illegible]	151·1
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Interest Fd	[illegible]	143·1
[illegible]	[illegible]	Gilt Fd	[illegible]	119·1
[illegible]	[illegible]	Money Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	U.S. Fd	[illegible]	126·9
[illegible]	[illegible]	Pacific Basin Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]

ROYAL LIFE (UNIT LND PEN. FD) LTD

[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Man Fd	159·9	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Equity Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Prop. Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Intnl Fd	302·0	317·8
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Gilt Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exempt Money Fd	[illegible]	125·0

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INS. SOC. LTD

238·4	175·5	R. L. Mixed Fd	196·9	206·3

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

[illegible]	[illegible]	Global Equity	[illegible]	102·0
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Balanced Inv	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Gilt	[illegible]	[illegible]
59·7	50·8	Property Pension	56·3	59·6
71·4	50·7	Equity Pension	67·4	71·4
69·9	52·0	Managed Pension	65·7	69·6
81·8	65·8	Global Equity Pen	76·3	80·8

SCHRODER LIFE GROUP
Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733

1984-85 High	Low	Name	Bid	Offer
250·4	170·3	American (4)	214·0	225·2
146·6	111·2	Australian	120·2	126·5
[illegible]	212·5	C M Managed Man (4)	262·5	276·3
[illegible]	[illegible]	Deposit (4)	[illegible]	199·5
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity (4)	405·6	427·7
[illegible]	[illegible]	European (4)	195·6	205·8
[illegible]	276·0	Fixed Int. (4)	256·9	270·4
215·4	188·0	Income Fixd (4)	202·0	212·6
[illegible]	206·0	Income Accum. (4)	228·1	[illegible]
217·4	183·0	International (4)	204·8	215·5
[illegible]	110·0	International Prop (4)	121·4	127·7
337·6	275·8	Managed (4)	311·3	327·6
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property (4)	[illegible]	299·6
160·0	[illegible]	Singapore & Malaysia (4)	151·6	159·8
[illegible]	[illegible]	Smaller Co's (4)	268·5	281·8
[illegible]	181·0	Tokyo (4)	229·6	241·6
250·4	192·5	U.K. Equity (4)	237·9	250·4
122·0	116·8	Deposit Pension (4)	115·9	122·0
[illegible]	282·2	Equity Pensions (4)	354·5	373·1
221·9	196·2	Fixed Int. Pen. (4)	209·2	220·2
125·5	109·4	Guaranteed Pen. (4)	118·4	124·6
109·4	95·5	Index Lnk Gilt Pen (4)	104·0	109·4
821·1	673·0	Managed Pension (4)	780·1	821·1
285·4	241·9	Property Pen (4)	255·2	265·4
225·0	158·7	Spec. Ex Bl Pen. (4)	212·0	225·1

SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASS. SOCIETY
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041-248 2323

200·6	166·4	Managed	190·3	200·4
158·9	145·5	Fixed Interest	151·4	162·6
246·6	183·4	Equity	228·2	240·3
322·4	166·4	International	306·6	317·4
127·3	118·6	Property	120·9	127·3
115·7	97·6	Index-Lnk'd Gilt Fd	109·8	115·7
157·1	132·5	Exempt Man. Fd. Int.	149·2	157·1
180·5	153·9	Exempt Man. Fd. Ac.	170·8	180·5
119·3	115·1	Exempt Fx. In. Fd. Ic	113·4	119·3
177·1	152·0	Exe'pt Fx In. Fd. Ac.	168·0	176·9
181·6	136·6	Exempt Eq'ty Fd. Int	169·6	178·6
217·4	162·2	Exe'pt Eq'ty Fd Acm	204·4	215·1
165·5	153·8	Exempt Intl. Fd. Int	153·6	161·9
200·5	136·1	Exempt Intl. Fd. Acm	[illegible]	195·1
98·1	87·4	Exempt Prop. Fd. Int	92·8	97·7
117·8	111·0	Exempt PropFd Acc.	111·9	117·8
125·0	123·8	Cash Fund	125·0	129·5
112·6	106·0	Exempt Cash Fund	107·1	112·8

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY
31 St Andrew Sq., Edinburgh EH2 2QZ 031-556-9101

[illegible]	[illegible]	Mixed	210·1	221·2
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equity	337·1	359·1
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fixed Int	123·6	130·2
[illegible]	[illegible]	International	243·6	256·5
[illegible]	[illegible]	Property	117·8	124·0
[illegible]	[illegible]	Index linked	108·7	114·5
[illegible]	[illegible]	Cash	116·56	122·74
120·4	90·8	Edinburgh Inv.	113·4	119·4
131·6	82·9	Edinburgh Am	119·4	125·7
120·7	80·7	Baillie Gifford Jap.	113·8	119·8

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19, St Andrew Square, Edinburgh. 031-556 9101

121·5	95·6	Managed	115·4	121·6
119·6	100·0	Property	104·1	109·5
151·1	31·0	U.K. Equity	125·4	150·0
162·2	99·4	American	148·8	156·8
150·3	89·4	Pacific	150·0	156·4
133·3	90·8	European	119·7	126·1
138·7	97·8	International	128·8	135·7
106·8	93·8	Fixed Int	98·4	104·2
110·6	95·7	Index Linked	104·9	110·6
106·0	100·0	Deposit	100·6	106·0
112·7	100·0	Pens Property	107·0	112·7
158·0	94·0	Pens U.K. Equity	149·0	158·9
174·8	99·4	Pens American	159·9	168·3
156·9	90·6	Pens Pacific	144·4	152·1
151·8	97·8	Pens European	124·8	131·6
147·1	98·7	Pens International	136·4	143·7
108·4	94·2	Pens Fixed Int.	100·7	106·1
112·9	95·8	Pens Index Linked	107·1	112·9
110·2	100·0	Pens Deposit	104·6	110·2
127·6	95·4	Pens Managed	120·2	126·6

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION
6, St Andrew Square, Edinburgh 031-556 9181

121·8	99·8	Mixed	115·5	121·6
128·9	100·4	Equity	122·4	128·9
147·2	102·5	International	136·0	143·2
110·8	101·2	Property	106·4	112·1
137·5	96·2	Fixed Int	100·2	105·6
106·8	91·6	Index Linked	102·3	107·8
197·9	100·9	Cash	102·4	107·8
119·0	99·1	Pen Mixed Init	113·0	119·0
124·1	101·3	Pen Mixed Ord	117·8	124·1
132·5	93·9	Pen Equity Initial	122·3	128·8
137·1	101·8	Pen Equity Ord	127·4	134·2
147·1	100·9	Pen Intl Initial	135·6	142·8
153·5	103·2	Pen Intl Ord	141·5	149·1
110·9	101·3	Pen Prop Init	105·3	110·8
115·8	101·5	Pen Prop Ord	109·9	115·8
109·2	95·5	Pen Fix Int Init	100·4	105·8
110·2	97·2	Pen Fix Int Ord	104·6	110·2
104·9	89·9	Pen I.L. Init	99·6	104·9
109·9	98·1	Pen I.L. Ord	104·4	109·9
107·3	100·6	Pen Cash Init	101·8	107·3
112·1	101·2	Pen Cash Ord	106·4	112·1

SCOTTISH WIDOWS GROUP
P.O. Box 902, Edinburgh, EH16 5BU. 031-655 6000

359·2	265·9	Inv Pol 1	331·2	359·2
351·2	256·1	Inv Pol 2	334·6	351·2
326·5	229·2	Inv Pol 3	310·1	326·5
169·8	158·3	Inv Pol Cash	161·3	169·8
185·6	154·3	Mixed Fd	176·2	185·6
213·7	164·6	Equity Fd	199·1	209·6
132·8	123·7	Prop Fd	126·1	132·8
176·2	132·1	Intnl Fd	163·5	172·2
184·0	149·8	Fix Int Fd	155·6	163·8
116·4	100·6	Ind Stk Fd	110·5	116·4
126·4	118·5	Cash Fd	120·0	126·4
214·1	172·7	Pen Mxd Ord	203·3	214·1
239·5	178·0	Pen Eq Ord	224·1	235·9
146·5	128·1	Pen Prop Ord	139·0	146·5
201·5	146·8	Pen Intl Ord	187·5	197·5
196·4	170·4	Pen F I Ord	182·8	192·6
121·9	103·2	Pen Ind St Ord	115·7	121·9
146·8	131·6	Pen Cash Ord	139·4	146·8
897·1	706·0	PM Man	884·0	894·0
916·6	715·9	PM F&I Ex	913·4	915·4
137·6	123·7	PM Prop	137·6	137·6
152·2	135·8	PM Cash	152·2	152·2
428·9	342·8	Ex Unit Acc	420·5	428·9

SKANDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Frobisher House, Nelson Gate, Southampton. 0703 334411

191·0	155·4	Managed Life Acc.	180·3	189·8
256·3	184·6	Managed PensionsAc	223·2	236·2
217·1	175·2	InternationlLifeAcc	204·5	215·3
299·8	222·0	InternationlPensAcc	281·3	296·1
120·2	95·3	ArbuthnotManLfeAc	114·2	120·2
123·6	94·0	Arbuthnot Pens.Acc.	117·5	121·6
105·7	86·2	BritanniaManLifeAc	100·4	105·6
122·7	92·5	BritanniaPensionsAc	115·9	121·9
115·5	93·6	FramlingtnMnLfeAc	108·9	114·6
137·0	99·7	FramlingtonPensAcc	128·0	135·7
113·9	88·1	Gartmore ManLifeAc	108·2	113·8
132·9	95·9	Gartmore Pens. Acc.	125·5	131·6
114·7	92·1	HendersonManLfeAc	108·8	114·5
130·9	98·7	Henderson Pens.Acc.	123·2	129·6
112·7	91·4	TSBManaged LfeAcc	106·6	112·2
130·9	98·0	TSB Pensions Acc.	120·9	127·2
194·5	159·5	Equity Life Acc.	184·7	194·5
246·3	191·0	Equity Pensions Acc.	233·9	246·2
157·4	143·1	Gilt Plus Life Acc.	146·3	154·0
196·4	174·4	Gilt Plus Pens. Acc.	182·6	192·2
149·5	136·9	Property Life Acc.	141·6	149·0
188·6	167·6	Property Pens. Acc.	179·2	188·6
150·0	137·1	Deposit Life Acc.	142·1	149·6
192·6	172·6	Deposit Pensions Acc	183·0	192·6

SUN ALLIANCE LINKED LIFE INSURANCE LTD
Sun Alliance House, Horsham, 0403-64141

Life Funds

389·0	304·4	Equity	370·0	389·5
231·9	204·2	Fixed Interest	213·9	225·2
283·5	193·9	International	262·9	276·8
313·8	243·0	Managed	297·5	313·2
251·6	225·6	Property	239·0	251·6
163·6	153·2	Deposit	155·4	163·6
136·0	113·2	Index Linked	129·2	136·0
134·6	89·3	North America	111·1	120·2
116·9	103·0	Far East	108·8	114·6
135·57	121·75	International Bond	—	135·57

Pension Funds

216·0	156·4	Equity	202·9	213·6
195·1	171·2	Fixed Interest	183·5	193·2
144·5	119·5	Property	137·2	144·5
205·0	162·0	Managed	194·7	205·0
160·7	132·6	Index Linked	152·6	160·7
243·2	160·5	International	224·9	236·8
135·5	130·9	Deposit	128·7	135·5

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.
3, George St., Edinburgh. EH2 2XZ 031-225 2552

272·7	215·0	Managed	259·0	272·7
175·7	161·7	Property	166·5	175·7
351·5	250·9	Equity	332·0	349·5
289·7	206·5	International	266·5	280·7
206·1	174·8	Fixed Interest	191·6	201·7
340·0	252·7	Pens. Manl.	323·3	340·6
452·3	327·6	Pens Equity	429·6	452·3
348·5	265·2	Pens Intnl.	341·6	359·8
112·5	97·7	Index-Linked	106·4	112·0
149·4	140·2	Cash	141·9	149·4
187·1	164·9	Pens Property	177·8	187·0
207·9	184·3	Pens Fixed Interest	197·5	207·9
115·2	96·3	Pens Index-Linked	109·4	115·2
178·0	157·7	Pens Cash	169·2	178·0

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA (UK) LTD
2, 3, & 4, Cockspur St., London SW1Y 5BH 01-930 5400

575·8	456·9	Growth Account	—	572·4
347·0	274·7	Managed Account	—	347·0
404·2	326·1	Equity Account	—	402·6
164·4	138·4	Maple Leaf Mngd.Fd	156·3	164·4
193·6	147·1	Maple Leaf Eq. Fd.	183·1	192·7
146·2	128·8	MapleLeafFix.In.Fd	134·3	141·4
129·0	113·1	Maple Leaf Prop. Fd	122·6	129·0
120·5	112·2	Maple Leaf MoneyFd	114·3	120·3
229·4	170·4	Maple Leaf Intnl.Fd	217·9	229·4
120·0	102·8	Maple Leaf In Lnk Fd	114·0	120·0
403·6	400·7	Personal Pens. Acct	—	403·6
275·8	215·6	Pensions Mngd. Acc	261·0	274·8
100·6	100·0	Pens.Guaranteed Fd	95·6	100·6
100·1	99·7	Pens. Equity Fd.	95·1	100·1
100·3	100·0	Pens. Property Fd.	95·2	100·3
101·4	100·5	Pens. Fixed Int. Fd.	96·3	101·4
107·1	100·0	Pens. Intnl. Fd.	101·7	107·1
100·6	100·0	Pens. Money Fd.	95·6	100·6
103·6	100·0	Pens Index Link Fd	98·4	103·6

SUN LIFE UNIT ASSURANCE LTD
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272-426911

359·8	321·2	Managed Acc	327·6	358·5
207·5	205·5	Property Acc.	196·8	207·2
455·4	325·7	Equity Acc.	428·1	450·7
185·4	179·2	Fixed Interest Acc	176·2	185·5
110·1	103·4	Index-Linked Acc.	104·5	110·1
171·8	168·8	Cash Acc.	162·8	171·3
216·3	181·9	AmericanEquityAcc	190·0	200·5
134·2	116·5	U.S. Bonds Acc.	114·7	131·8
157·6	117·6	Japan Acc.	173·7	130·5
121·2	103·7	Pacific Acc	112·1	118·1
288·8	264·1	Far Eastern Acc	272·0	286·4
255·5	237·6	International Acc.	245·5	258·5
119·7	114·9	U.S. Dollar Acc	115·5	121·6
111·9	105·7	Yen Acc	103·2	109·7
107·0	104·6	European Curr. Acc	99·4	104·7
155·7	139·0	Distribution	145·9	155·5

SUN LIFE PENSIONS MNGMT LTD

1984-85 High	Low	Name	Bid	Offer
350·7	282·0	Pens. Mngd. Acc.	334·4	352·3
167·0	152·8	Pens Property Acc	158·6	167·0
404·1	307·0	Pens. Equity Acc	384·3	404·4
176·3	171·1	Pens. Fixed Int. Acc	167·4	176·3
111·4	104·0	Pens. Ind. Lnk. Acc	105·6	111·2
170·3	166·1	Pens. Cash Acc	161·7	170·3
185·4	140·8	Pens Americ Eq Acc	168·7	177·6
149·0	123·0	Pens U.S. Bonds Acc	136·4	144·2
141·0	123·2	Pens Japan Acc	128·7	135·5
140·1	111·5	Pens Pacific Acc	131·4	138·4
451·8	290·0	Pens Far Eastern Acc	415·4	436·2
327·0	284·5	Pens Intnl. Acc	302·1	318·0
135·3	120·8	Pens U.S. Dollar Acc	121·3	131·2
122·5	113·2	Pens. Yen Acc.	112·6	118·6
106·8	105·5	Pens Euro. Curr Acc	99·8	105·2

TSB LIFE & PENSIONS
P.O. Box 3, Keens House, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG. 0264-62188

128·0	100·5	Managed	121·4	127·9
112·8	101·6	Pens Ed	107·0	112·5
159·5	115·0	Equity	150·4	158·4
116·9	98·4	Fixed Int.	108·7	114·5
111·1	101·2	Money	105·4	111·1
250·0	100·0	Man Pens	218·4	240·0
101·8	100·0	Deposit Pens.	96·5	101·6

TEACHERS ASSURANCE CO. LTD

138·0	114·5	Managed Fund	131·1	138·0
119·1	104·2	Gilt & Fixed Int. Fd.	113·2	119·0
114·8	107·1	Cash Fund	109·1	114·8

TRANSINTERNATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD
55-57, High Holborn WC1 6DU 01-831 7481

226·3	185·5	Series 2 Man. Fund	215·0	226·3
280·7	214·8	Series 2 Equity Fund	266·7	280·7
211·0	181·1	Series 2 Prop. Fund	198·5	212·9
202·9	173·3	Series 2 Fixed Int. Fd	187·0	196·8
145·2	137·6	Series 2 Money Fund	138·0	145·2
247·3	168·6	Series 2 O'seas Fund	194·6	234·6
444·1	358·7	Tulip Invest. Fund	421·8	444·1
311·5	[illegible]	Tulip Managed Fund	296·0	311·5
223·5	181·5	Managed Fund Inc	209·5	220·5
265·0	238·7	Managed Fund Acc.	244·0	256·8
349·2	277·4	Man. Pen. Fund Cap.	331·8	349·2
451·6	353·5	Man. Pen. Fund Acc.	429·1	451·6

TRIDENT LIFE ASSURANCE CO. LTD
London Road, Gloucester, GL1 3LE 0452-500500.

1984-85 High	Low	Name	Bid	Offer
273·0	191·6	American	242·6	255·1
193·5	153·6	International	176·7	186·1
277·2	225·2	U.K. Equity	262·4	276·2
255·9	222·8	Managed	241·2	254·0
318·0	275·0	High Yield	302·2	318·0
125·4	109·1	Gilt Edged	119·6	125·9
355·4	257·8	Growth Acc	330·7	348·3
250·5	184·5	Growth Cap	236·8	249·5
322·9	297·8	Property	307·4	322·9
261·0	232·4	Guaranteed	246·2	259·3
215·4	198·5	Money	204·7	215·6
261·3	220·8	Fiscal	237·2	249·8
369·3	311·7	Pensions Managed	350·7	377·7
256·2	241·0	Pensions Deposit	243·2	256·1
336·7	322·5	Pensions Property	320·6	337·7
263·4	223·6	Pensions Gilt Edged	236·4	249·0
344·7	265·2	Pensions Equity	325·9	343·1
122·5	105·3	Pensions Fixed Bond	115·6	122·1
117·4	107·4	Pensions Worldwide	111·4	117·4
116·0	99·0	Henderson Active	108·9	115·1
123·8	99·0	Perpetual Active	116·2	122·4
130·2	76·2	Trident Bond	96·3	101·2
208·8	120·0	Henderson Pens.	162·1	170·6
135·1	120·0	Perpetual Pens.	125·5	132·2

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355·2	295·0	Managed	346·7	365·0
686·5	525·9	Equity	652·1	686·5
275·2	246·9	Fixed Interest	278·6	293·5
253·8	234·7	Property	241·1	253·8
403·1	288·1	International	380·3	400·1
134·6	94·0	North American	123·2	129·7
115·6	85·5	Pacific Basin	108·4	112·1
121·1	94·1	European	115·0	121·1
200·6	188·2	Cash	190·5	200·6
335·6	255·4	Pensions Managed	310·2	326·6
443·6	322·4	Pensions Equity	418·5	440·6
357·7	325·5	Pensions Fixed Int.	254·5	267·7
219·3	201·3	Pensions Property	208·3	219·3
122·6	104·4	Pens Index-Linked	116·4	122·6
151·0	121·4	Pens Intnat'l Money	143·7	151·3
155·0	102·7	Pens Global Equity	143·2	151·4
104·2	100·0	Pensions Cash	98·9	104·2
12·50	8·44	Pens. Guaranteed	12·5	—

* Ex-distribution.
† Based on offer prices.
WX Ex-withdrawal

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Application will be made to The Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in all the ordinary shares of William Bedford Plc, issued and now being issued, in the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for these securities to be admitted to listing.

These particulars do not constitute an invitation to purchase shares.

WILLIAM BEDFORD Plc

(Registered in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967, Registered No. 970338)

Offer for Sale by Tender by Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee & Co.

of 1,500,000 ordinary shares of 5p each at a minimum tender price of 100p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application.

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The application list for the ordinary shares now being offered for sale will open at 10 am on Friday 15th March and may be closed at any time thereafter.

Copies of the Offer for Sale (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered) with Application Forms will be available from:—

Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee & Co., 20 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7JS.

Barclays Bank PLC, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4P 4HD.

This Offer for Sale is being advertised in full, with an Application Form in the Financial Times on Tuesday 12th March 1985.

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COMPANIES

Goode Durrant control changes

CONTROL of banking and finance group Goode Durrant & Murray is passing from trusts associated with its chairman: Lionel Robinson, to Michael Waring, a 38-year-old South African who intends making an 80p-a-share offer valuing the group at £19·2 million.

Acting on behalf of Infintraco Establishment, a company controlled by Mr Waring and his family, English Association, the former bondholders' protection association turned merchant bank, has acquired 65·86 p.c. of Goode Durrant from various Robinson trusts.

Mr Robinson will continue as chairman but Mr Waring, with banking experience in South Africa, comes in as chief executive. Infintraco, which intends to develop Goode Durrant's international trade and hopes to be allowed to extend its licensed deposit activities, is retaining 29·14 p.c.

The balance has been placed with institutions, including the United Kingdom Temperance Provident Institution, which is taking a 20·82 p.c. stake, at 80p a share.

Greggs

DESPITE being hit by the miners' strike, the long, hot summer and delays in opening new shops, Greggs, the Newcastle-based specialist baker, has had a "satisfactory outcome" to 1984 with pre-tax profits up from £1·74m to £1·92m.

A higher tax charge leaves earnings back from 14·6p to 11·5p, but the group, which obtained a full listing last May, is paying the indicated 5·4p total dividend with a 2p final on May 21.

Granada Group

DESPITE disappointing television advertising revenue, trading profits at Granada Group during the initial months of the current year have shown a "satisfactory improvement" on last year, said chairman Alex Bernstein at yesterday's annual meeting.

In 1983-84 the group turned in record pre-tax profits of £55·7m (£45·5m) helped by a two-and-a-half months contribution from Rediffusion.

Low & Bonar

BACKED by a 25 p.c. increase in full year pre-tax profits from £9·11m to a new peak of £11·4m and a jump in earnings from 35·01p to 53·54p, Low & Bonar is lifting its dividend by 4·5p to 12p with a 8·7p final on May 10 and making a one-for-two scrip issue.

In 1983-84 there was particular progress by packaging and plastics with profits up from £4·89m to £7·37m. Textiles were relatively unchanged at £5·35m but electronics contributed £1·07m compared with £546,000, with the latter figure excluding a profit of £1·55m from a company since sold.

Parker Knoll

OPENING half pre-tax profits from Parker Knoll are up from £1·42m to £1·73m on turnover £1·19m ahead at £21·45m. Thanks to the textiles division, where the investments made in new ranges for G. P. & J. Baker and Parkertex are beginning to show through in profits.

Elsewhere, furniture activities remained fairly static and losses at Nathan Furniture, the cabinet maker, were broadly unchanged at £100,000. Low demand at Ravmakers, the velvet weaver, saw increased pressure on margins and this was exacerbated by renewed imports from the Near East.

The interim dividend stays at 3p on April 26 from earnings of 15·4p (11·7p).

Phicom

REPORTING a 53 p.c. advance in 1984 pre-tax profits to £3·62m (£2·36m), Phicom chairman Anthony Franks says this is the fruit of the restructuring carried out in 1981 and 1982 at the time of the recession. He adds that he sees no reason at this time to doubt that 1985 will also show a healthy improvement.

Holders get a 0·75p final on June 3, making 1·1p (0·75p), from earnings of 4·6p (3·4p).

T&S Stores

T & S STORES, the cut-price cigarette, confectionery and greeting card retailer which came to the U S M in October, has easily topped its prospectus forecast of £750,000 with full year pre-tax profits of £805,000, as against £546,000 for the comparable period. Turnover increased by 41·6 p.c. from £25·7m to £36·4m.

As forecast, there is a maiden dividend of 1·575p on May 31 from earnings of 6·09p (4·15p).

IN BRIEF

Land Investors: First half pre-tax profit £1·581m (£1·532m). Gross rental income £2·54m (£2·37m). Eps 0·89p (0·81p). Extraordinary credit £5·26m (£1·05m) surplus over cost on disposal of investment properties. Interim dividend 0·3p (0·2p) to reduce disparity.

Goodman Brothers: First half pre-tax profit £23,000 (£27,000) after Dolly Day losses of £24,000. Turnover £6·04m (£4·52m). Eps, fully diluted, 0·251p (0·275p). As usual, no interim dividend.

Microfilm Reprographics: First-half pre-tax profit £189,800 (£83,700). Turnover £1·49m (£848,700). Eps 3·4p (1·52p). Interim dividend 0·5p (0·375p) payable July 1.

J. Rothschild Holdings: Year-end being changed to end-March; first report and accounts for group will cover the 15 months ending March, 1985. Board intend a second interim payable in July.

Enderry Shoes: First half pre-tax profit I£103,000 (I£208,000) after exceptional debit of I£66,000 (nil), profit on sale of investments nil (I£7,000) and investment income on deposit interest I£47,000 (I£66,000). Turnover I£2·45m (I£2·099m). Eps 2·49p (5·54p). Interim dividend again 2p, payable April 9.

Aspro-Nicholas: Planning repay the 1·5m 4·025 p.c. £1 cumulative preference stock units on basis of 79p per unit plus accrued dividend.

Inchcape Berhad (65·3 p.c. owned by Inchcape). Full year pre-tax profit S$53·6m (S$40·8) including share of profits less losses from associates S$21·3m (S$5·39m). Turnover S760·3m (S$937·4m). Extraordinary credit S$4·12m (debit S$8·07m). Final dividend 10 p.c. gross making 17·5 p.c. (same).

Guernsey Atlantic Securities Trust: Full year pre-tax revenue £24,500 (£18,900). Nav. 182p (155p). Dividend 3 p.c. (2·5 p.c.).

Highlands & Lowlands Bhd: Full year trading profit M$80·8m (M$49·4m). Turnover M$147·8m (M$104·8m). Eps 14·7c (11·2c). Extraordinary debit M$880,000 (credit M$15·6m). Nav. M$1·39. Final dividend 15c gross, payable May 17, making 22·5c gross (17·5c gross).

MONEY & EXCHANGES

A STRONGER pound and hopes of lower interest rates boosted sentiment in London money markets and brought the cost of funds crashing down.

The key three-month interbank rate fell by more than ½ p.c. to just under 13½ p.c. as optimism grew of a cut in bank base rates before the Budget on March 19.

On the exchanges, the pound gained at the expense of the dollar against a background of firmer oil prices and profit-taking in the American currency.

By the close, the pound had gained 1·87 cents to $1·0880 while its international value improved by 0·5 points to 71·6.

The pound advanced in terms of the mark and other major currencies as well as the dollar.

Hopes of a cut in British bank base rates made it extremely difficult for the Bank of England to relieve liquidity shortages in the banking system through normal bill operations. The Bank only managed to inject £516 million of cash into the system against a shortage of £650 million.

THE POUND ABROAD

	11-3-85	Prev. close
Austria	25 44–.55	25.47–.56
Belgium*	72.92–73.17	72.81–73 02
Canada	1 5077–.5121	1.4906–.4959
Denmark	12 9934–13.0317	12 9555–.9844
France	11.0280–.3200	11.0536–.1012
Germany W	3 6268–.6367	3.6222–.6327
Holland	4.1013–.1142	4 0924–.1088
Ireland	1.1630–.1690	1.1650–.1705
Italy	2268.79–2368.39	2260 41–2368 94
Japan	281.53–282 34	279.09–279.70
Norway	10.4318–.4789	10.3751–.4452
Portugal	200.64–202.66	199.28–201.70
Spain	201.08–.67	200 45–201.06
Sweden	10.3374–.3891	10.2845–.3823
Switzerland	3.0939–.1029	3 0826–.0925
Utd. States	1.0870–.0890	1.0685–.0700

* Convertible rate.

Effective Sterling Exchange Rate Index NOON 71·5 (71·0) CLOSE 71·6 (71·1) (Base 1975 = 100)

OTHER MARKET RATES

Argentina	Peso 311 70–312.27
Australia	A$1 5400–1 5430
Brazil	Cruzeiro 4329 00–4356 00
Cyprus	C£ 0.7377–0.7423
Finland	Markka 7.5740–7.5840
Greece	Drachma 151.67–164 73
Hong Kong	HK$ 8 4610–8.4710
India	Rupee 14.0252
Iraq*	Dinar 0 3527–0.3544
Kuwait	Dinar 0.3280–0.3520
Malaysia	Ringgit 2 8100–2.8200
Saudi Arabia	Ryal 3.8710–3.9110
Singapore	S$ 2.4490–2.4590
South Africa	Rand 2.1555–2 1618
United Arab Emirates	Dirham 3.9570–3.9770

* Subject to limit

DOLLAR RATES

	11 3-85	Prev. close
France	10·2000	10·3700
Germany	3·3586	3·3936
Switzerland	2·8475	2·8575
Japan	259·15	261·42
Trade weighted ave.	153·80	156·40

EUROCURRENCIES

DOLLARS:		
7 days 8⅞–8¾	1 month 8¾–8⅝	
3 months 9⅛–9¼	6 months 9⅝–10	
MARKS:		
7 days 6–6⅛	1 month 6⅛–6¼	
3 months 6⅛–6¼	6 months 6⅜–6½	
SWISS FRANCS:		
7 days 3–3⅛	1 month 5⅛–5⅜	
3 months 5⅛–5⅜	6 months 5⅜–5½	

FORWARD RATES

The forward rates for currencies for one month and three months are as follows:

Austria	17½–16⅛ Gro pm	42½–39½ Gro.p.m
Belgium	24–19 c.pm	49–20 c pm
Canada	0 43–0 35 c.pm	0.69–0.56 c.pm
Denmark	2⅛–1⅛ Ore pm	6⅛–5⅛ Ore pm
France	3½–2⅛ c.pm	5⅛–4⅛ c.pm
Germany W	2⅜–2⅛ Pfc pm	6⅛–5⅞ Pfg pm
Holland	2⅛–2⅛ c.pm	5⅞–5½ c.pm
Italy	Par–3 Lr.dis	7–12 Lire dis
Japan	2–1⅛ Yen pm	4⅛–4½ Yen pm
Norway	1½–½ Ore pm	2–1 Ore pm
Portugal	120–450 c.dis	440–1510 c.dis
Spain	20 c.pm–Par	525c pm–525c.dis
Sweden	1⅝–1½ Ore pm	Par–⅛ Ore pm
Switzerland	2½–2⅛ c.pm	5⅛–6½ c.pm
Utd. States	0.48–0.46 c.pm	1.30–1.25 c.pm

GOLD PRICE

1st Fix $290·25 — 2nd Fix $291·00
Close $290·75 ($291 25)
Sterling Equiv. £267·23 (£272·39)

KRUGERRANDS*

£274·00–£325·15 (£278·00–£327·75)

PLATINUM NOBLES

£251·30–£254·00 (£241·66–£244·44)

NEW SOVEREIGNS*

£61·00–£78·20 (£63·00–£80·80)

* Banks selling rate includes VAT and charges. Buying rate excludes VAT. Prices are for single coins.

MONEY MARKET RATES (per cent.)

CLEARING BANKS Base Rate 14pc (Jan.28)
FINANCE HOUSES Base Rate 12½pc (Mar.1)

DISCOUNT MKT.: Day-to-Day 14–14¼		
INTERBANK:	Overnight 14¼–14½	
7 days 14⅛–14½	1 month 13¹⁵⁄₁₆–14	
3 months 13⁷⁄₁₆–13⁵⁄₁₆	6 months 12½–12⅝	
LOCAL AUTHORITY DEPOSITS:		
Two days 14⅛	Seven days 14⅛	
One month 13⅞	Three months 13⅝	
BANK BILLS:	1 month 13⅝–13¼	
3 months 13⅛–13⅛	6 months 12–12⅛	
TREAS. BILLS:	1 month 13⅜–13⅛	
2 months 13⅛–13⅛	3 months 12⅞–13⅛	
STERLING C.Ds.:	1 month 13⅞–14	
3 months 13⅛–13¼	1 year 12–12⅛	
DOLLAR C.Ds.:	1 month 8.60–8.70	
3 months 9.00–9.10	1 year 10.50–10.60	

THE QUESTOR COLUMN

Easy ride in Dunlop for BTR

AN OVERWHELMING vote of confidence came through yesterday for B T R's new and agreed bid for Dunlop Holdings. B T R shares hit an all-time high of 704p and finally closed at 689p—up 30p on the day—which in turn sent the Dunlop shares 18½p higher to 65½p, where they are exactly in line with the current bid valuation.

It it now clear that B T R's original 22p offer was a "silly" bid. The acquisitional wizards at B T R were doing no more than dipping a tentative toe into the Dunlop pool in order to elicit information as to the true worth of their quarry.

They now have this, but the Dunlop shareholders are still waiting. They have been kept in the dark throughout the bid battle and still have little idea exactly what their directors are now recommending they sell. They do not know yet whether the planned United States management buyout it still going through.

They will hopefully take comfort from the fact that their shares are now worth almost three times the pre-bid price and that they have the opportunity of participating in one of the fastest-growing companies this country has even seen.

But, as the market displayed yesterday, this is a potentially great deal for B T R shareholders.

Even in the absence of accurate information on Dunlop it seems safe to assume that in 1984 it made virtually nothing pre-tax—give or take £5 million—on total sales of around £1 billion. It also seems safe to assume that the group has shown a substantial attributable loss below the line after provisions of about £50 million.

B T R's reputation for drawing the best out of low margin situations is engraved on tablets of stone in the City, so the real significance of these figures is that it has bought £1 billion of turnover for just over £100 million.

If Dunlop can make £35 million pre-tax in 1985, B T R should be able to raise its pre-tax level from £284 million to around £400 million for a prospective multiple of 14 times.

But the fun for B T R holders should really begin in 1986 when it should have the full benefit of Dunlop's tax losses as well as a strong boost from margin improvement. Profits then could jump to almost £500 million, which would mean earnings appreciation of 30. p.c.

B T R's star is still strongly in the ascendent, demand for the shares remains high and, given the company's plans to make a major United States acquisition, soon, a vendor placing or rights issue could be on the cards for later this year.

Post-Dunlop gearing will after all be up to 105 p.c. of shareholders funds.

Tootal—don't tie knot yet

ENTRAD, the Australian bidder for Tootal Group, has risen to the bait dangled in the latter's defence document.

Tootal shareholders will be able to discover something of Entrad's financial position in the latest solicitation to accept the offer of 70p cash.

The *pro forma* balance sheet will not, however, convince them that Entrad is particularly well placed to make a £125 million offer. Debt, after the proceeds of a share placing, is broadly in line with shareholders' funds. By the time Entrad has paid for Tootal debt will be up around 2·5 times shareholders' funds.

Since Tootal shareholders are being offered cash, and nothing but cash, the finances of Entrad after a bid will not, however, be their main concern.

Rather it will be whether Entrad has justified its bid in relation to Tootal's past performance and future prospects. The answer is yes to the first part but no to the second.

Entrad recognises, and to its credit does not hide, the potential in Tootal. It has a firm base on which to expand and strong middle management capable of pushing the business into the 1990s.

Tootal lacks, according to Entrad, the top management resources it needs to make the most of its opportunities — and it is management and "the right culture" that Entrad can supply.

Shareholders in Tootal may feel that if all that is required to put the group into a vigorous growth phase is a couple of new faces on the board and a generous incentive scheme Tootal should be able to do that itself.

Given that, they are unlikely to accept the offer which represents around 9·5 times earnings for the year to January 1985 and eight times prospective current year earnings.

Entrad will have to raise its bid to win. Shareholders should sit tight.

Process for the long term

PROCESS Systems is a new issue the stags would rather forget. The offer for sale was twelve times oversubscribed, yet the shares opened at a discount and have struggled ever since their market debut just before Christmas.

After the interim results yesterday, however, there were signs that long-term investors were moving into the shares, for the price perked up from 80p to 85p—still shy of the 92p issue price.

The company could well question the level of support its sponsors managed to generate in the wake of the offer for sale, for there is nothing intrinsically wrong with the company and the shares now look fundamentally undervalued.

Interim results showing a dip in pre-tax income from $1·2 million to $1·09 million were foreshadowed in the prospectus and fully in line with budgets. The earnings dip was brought about by a rapid expansion of facilities and payroll in anticipation of a sharp upturn in orders.

The company supplies recording and management systems to the electrical supply industry, and in addition to new products it is steadily enlarging its spread of utility customers as each one completes its trials.

In the current year to June, approaching 40 p.c. of sales will be made in the final quarter, an annual pattern dictated by the ordering habits of the American electricity supply companies.

Orders on hand put the prospectus forecast of after tax earnings of $2·9 million well within reach, and the expansion of demand and capacity suggest a figure of $4·5 million should be possible in 1985-86.

That scale of growth merits a price/earnings ratio, based on 1984-85 forecasts, at least in line with the forecast 16·4 times.

On 1985-86 projections, the rating falls to 11·4 times. As we said at the time of the flotation, a share for serious long term investors.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL MARKETS

Rudolf Wolff Report

COPPER: Easy. Wire bars: Off settlement £1,284 (£1,291), off midday cash £1,283–£1,284, 3 mths £1,300–£1,301, after close cash £1,278–£1,280, 3 mths £1,296–£1,297. T/O 23,200 tonnes. Cathodes: Idle. Off settlement £1,275 (£1,285). Off midday cash £1,273–£1,275, 3 mths £1,292–£1,294, after close cash £1,269–£1,271, 3 mths £1,288–£1,290. T/O 50 tonnes.

TIN: Steady. Off settlement £10,145 (£10,235), off midday cash £10,140–£10,145, 3 mths £10,140–£10,150, after close cash £10,135–£10,140, 3 mths £10,138–£10,140. T/O 1,245 tonnes.

LEAD: Barely steady. Off settlement £323·50 (£327), off midday cash £325–£325·50, 3 mths £332·50–£333, after close cash £325–£326, 3 mths £332–£333. T/O 16,800 tonnes.

ZINC: Easy. Off settlement £826 (£843), off midday cash £825–£826, 3 mths £806–£807, aft close cash £821–£823, 3 mths £804–£805. T/O 5,200 tonnes.

SILVER: Easy. Midday cash 523·0p–523·0p, 3 mths 540·5p–541·0p, aft close cash 515·0p–517·0p, 3 mths 533·0p–534·0p. T/O 55 lots of 10,000 oz each.

ALUMINIUM: Easy. Off settlement £1,007 (£1,043·50), off midday cash £1,006–£1,007, 3 mths £1,041·50–£1,042, aft close cash £1,002–£1,003·50, 3 mths £1,038–£1,039. T/o 21,700 tonnes.

NICKEL: Easy. Off settlement £4,730 (£4,840), off midday cash £4,745–£4,750, 3 mths £4,790–£4,795, aft close cash £4,675–£4,685, 3 mths £4,730–£4,735. T/o 1,440 tonnes.

LONDON SILVER MARKET. Spot 521·00 (534·35), 3 mths 537·80 (551·75), 6 mths 555·85 (567·80), 1 yr 582·65 (597·25).

PLATINUM: Free-market £233 (£238·05).

LONDON COMMODITY MARKETS

RUBBER — Spot: 70·00–73·00 (70·00–73·00). Futures: Idle. April £720–£755. May £730–£765. June £740–£775. July £750–£785. August £760–£795. Sept. £770–£805. Oct. £780–£815. Nov. £790–£825. Dec. £800–£835. T/o 0 lots.

SISAL: East African quoted levels. No. 1 Basis $660. No. 3 Long $640. CIF Antwerp prices.

SUGAR: London Daily price raws £101 $109. No. 6 Contract $ per tonne. May 113–113·20. Aug. 118·60–118·80. Oct. 125–125·30. Dec. 130·60–132. March 144·80–145. May 150–150·40. Aug. 157·60–159·60. 1,704 lots.

SOYA MEAL: Easier. April £48·70–£49. June £58·70–£58·80. Aug. £40·20–£40·40. Oct. £45·50–£46·40. Dec. £51·50–£52·20. Feb. £56·50–£57·50. April £57·50–£58·50. T/o 260 lots.

*COCOA E.D. + F Man report (£ per tonne) *Closing prices: March 2,145 (Sell) 2,144 (Buy). May 2,121 2,119. July 2,105 2,105. Sept 2070 2085. Dec 2,009 2,008. March 1,999 1,998. May 2,000 1,992. Sales 4230. Options 0.

LONDON GRAIN MARKETS

LONDON.—Barley £ per ton March 115·70. May 117·00. Sept 97·85. Nov 101·45. Jan 104·90. Wheat 'B' March 115·35. May 118·65. July 122·90. Sept 98·25. Nov 101·50. Coffee: March 2578. May 2430. July 2468. Sept 2493. Nov 2492. Jan 2455. March —. Sales 1504.

Locational ex-farm spot prices and changes on last week. Eastern: Feed barley 110·60. +30. East Midlands: Feed wheat 113·90. +70; feed barley 113·10. +50. Scotland: Feed wheat 116·30. +70; feed barley 110·30. N/C.

CRUDE OIL

Rotterdam spot prices in $: Arab Light 27·65. Dubai 27·10. Arab Heavy 26·65. North Sea (Forties) 28·20. North Sea (Brent) 27·45 (April). Nigerian Bonny medium 28·10.

COVENT GARDEN

Fruit: Per lb eating apples 8-30, cookers 8-14, bananas 35, grapes 50-60, pears 8-28. Para 33-38, plus 32-60, forced rhubarb 25-50, strawberries 80-100, lychees 80. each avocados 20-40, coconuts 30, figs 20, grapefruit 8-18, pink 45, kiwi 23-27, lemons 4-10, limes 16-18, mangoes 60-150, melons 70-130, oranges 4-20, clementines etc 5-16, nectarines 20-22, pineapples 63-180, ugli 21-78.

Salad: Per lb chicory 64, cooked beetroot 25, raw beetroot 5-7, Chinese leaf 25, parsley 400, imported tomatoes 30-50, home-grown 40-65, shallots 50, each celery 27-33, imported cucumbers 30-48, home-grown 32-55, round lettuce 18-25, iceberg 40-60, curly endive 81-100, per bunch watercress 16, mustard and cress 7, spring onions 33, radishes 16.

Vegetables: Per lb asparagus 240-300, root artichokes 25, aubergines 40-50, Kenya beans 85-100, brussels sprouts 15, broad beans 40, cabbage 10-12, calabrese 30, old carrots 4-10, new 20, courgettes 50-60, spring greens 28, leeks 15-20, mushroom 65-75, onions 5-10, parsnips 7-9, peppers 45-60, old potatoes 2-5, new 15-20, swedes 7-9, turnips 11, each globe artichoke 30, sweetcorn 30, celeriac 12-20, cauliflowers 50-52.

LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average Fatstock prices: GB cattle 95·46p per kg lw (−0·15). GB sheep 192·04p per kg est dcw (+14·25). GB pigs 79·09p per kg lw (+0·61). England and Wales: cattle nos. up 7·7 p.c. 85·65p (−0·04), sheep nos. down 2·6 p.c. 194·47p (+15·31), pig nos. up

LONDON TEA AUCTIONS

There were 41,843 packages on offer in this week's sale, including 7,390 packages in the offshore section.

Demand was fairly good but somewhat selective. Assams came to an irregular but generally lower market with some withdrawals. Bangladesh teas received a good inquiry except for plainer sorts.

Africans were well supported but prices were irregular and often 4p to 5p easier.

Better liquoring Ceylons sold well and were sometimes dearer but plainer kinds shed 5 to 8p. Offshore offerings sold at generally firm rates with a good general demand.

Quotations: Quality 290p nominal (290), medium 246p (250), low medium 194p (198).

BUSINESS PROPOSITIONS

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into obligations.

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ISRAEL BUSINESS NEWS—A newsletter with the facts on Israel's business scene. Sample copy (90p) from H. Jacobson Ltd., 91, Marylebone High St., London, W.1.

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here in the Daily Telegraph on Wednesday, 27th March, 1985
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CONTRACTS & TENDERS

WEST MERCIA CONSTABULARY
TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE SUPPLY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
1. Telex Rolls
2. Toilet Rolls
The Closing date for the receipt of tenders is to be 29th March 1985. Forms of tender can be obtained on application to:
The Chief Constable, (F.A.O. Force Supplies Officer), West MERCIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS, P.O. Box 55, Hindlip Hall, Worcester WR3 8SP.

NORTH WEST THAMES REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
CENTRAL MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL
NEW MENTAL ILLNESS UNIT
Mechanical & Electrical Contractors wishing to tender for the Mechanical & Electrical Installations of a two storey building at the above location are invited to submit their names for inclusion in a selective list of tenderers.
The building will provide acute psychiatric services of 90 beds and outpatients departments of 100 day places for the Brent District Health Authority.
The site is on allotments to the north west of the hospital and is virtually flat. Access will be through the hospital site from Barretts Green Road.
The building is two stories of load bearing brick/blockwork supporting a timber roof clad with concrete tiles and proprietory sheet roofing. Ground and first floor slabs are of reinforced concrete with concrete walls and columns supporting the brick clad roof plant room.
The scheme incorporates the following associated services.
MECHANICAL SERVICES—including ventilation, heating, hot and cold water services, fire services, steam and condensate services.
ELECTRICAL SERVICES—including sub-main distribution, lighting, general power, telephones, fire alarms, staff call system, emergency lighting and lifts.
The approximate cost of the scheme as a whole is £2·2 million including £450,000 for Mechanical Services and £300,000 for Electrical Services and the contracts period is 33 months.
The relevant form of contract will be JCT 80, Local Authorities Edition with quantities.
It is anticipated that tenders will be invited during April 1985 with a view to a start on site at the end of July 1985 the period for completion of tenders being 6 weeks.
The final date for receipt of requests to tender is the 22nd March 1985.
The address to which requests must be sent is:
The Regional Engineer, North West Thames Regional Health Authority, 5 Craven Hill, London W2 3EN.

TENDER FOR DOMESTIC SERVICES
The North Tyneside Health Authority will shortly be inviting tenders for the provision of domestic services to its premises other than the District General Hospital at Rake Lane, North Shields.
There are four hospitals and 14 Health Centres or Clinics with a total of 36,940 sq. metres. The contract will not be divided, and a Site Manager will be required.
The Contract will be let by the North Tyneside Health Authority.
Those interested in being considered for possible inclusion in the list of potential tenderers should telephone expressing their interest to:
The Contracts Officer, Regional Supplies Division, Northern Regional Health Authority, Benfield Road, Walkergate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE6 4PY. Telephone Tyneside (091) 265 4133, Ext 5187.
Such Applications must be received by 14th March, 1985.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING can be submitted by TELEX No. 22874

CONTRACTS & TENDERS
North East Thames Regional Health Authority
CONTRACTS
Contractors are invited to submit their names for selection tender on a bill of quantities for work at Wanstead Hospital, Heron Hill, London, E11 1PA, comprising provision of 2 no. 24 beds, long stay, single storey Geriatric unit together with associated services including roadway and landscape work.
Overall estimated cost £1,000,000 - £1,500,000 for completion in 12 months (by October, 1986).
It is anticipated that tenders will be issued on April 22, 1985. Contractors wishing to be considered should write to The Regional Architect, North East Thames RHA, 40, Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 3QR, no later than March 22, 1985.
The form of contract will be the JCT Standard Form of Building Contract WITH CONTRACTORS DESIGN. 1981 edition.

BUSINESSES, HOTELS, LICENSED PREMISES

HUNTLEY & PARTNERS
LICENSED COASTAL HOTEL IN SUPERB ELEVATED POSITION, known as THE PANORAMA HOTEL, HANNAFORE ROAD, WEST LOOE, CORNWALL. Situated above the harbour commanding unsurpassed views over town and coast, a well maintained detached property with bar, lounge, TV lounge, dining room sta. approx. 48, kitchens, stores, 18 letting bedrooms plus 2 bedroom annexe. Terraced gardens, swimming pool, sun terrace, car park. T/O approx. £40,215 for 1984 Season, excellent profits. PRICE GUIDE £100,000–£125,000 S.A.V. For Sale by Auction, unless sold previously, subject to conditions and Reserve, vacant possession on completion. At THE DUKE OF CORNWALL HOTEL, MILLBAY ROAD, PLYMOUTH, DEVON, on WEDNESDAY, 1st MAY, 1985, at 3.00 p.m. T.17
MOORLAND POST OFFICE & STORES. Delightful village setting near major S. Devon city and in beautiful Dartmoor Nat. Park. Charming prop. with sales shop, P.O. section, 2 bed accom., lovely gardens and garage. T/O approx. £1,000 p.w. + P.O. sal. approx. £4,900 p.a. FREEHOLD £57,500 S.A.V. T.18
THE COTT INN, DARTINGTON, S. DEVON. Unique thatched Inn, famous Dart Valley village, near S. Hams of S. Devon, 14th Century prop. rich in rustic accom., open plan bars, restnt. sta. 30, 7 bed accom., car park, gardens. T/O approx. £4,500 p.w. G.P. approx. 52%. FREEHOLD £395,000 S.A.V. T.19
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with Freehouse, Restaurant, Tea rooms, 2 apartments, Meadows for camping/caravans, pony trekking, in all 15 acres to Auction, 4th April, 1985. Waycotts, 5 Fleet St Torquay. 0803 213551.

A LEADING SPORTS SHOP in excellent town centre position in West Country town. Impressive, spacious premises with 1,000 sq. ft. Sales well equipped, ample storage, office, w.c. Long lease, with high profits from six-figure turnover and continued growth. All main agencies held. Freehold £140,000 S.A.V. Write A.L.16440, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

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COUNTRY HOTEL for sale. Near Southern Cathedral city. 9 bedrooms + owners cottage, fine restaurant and bar and self contained function room. Turnover approx. £140,000 but much scope for improvement. Secure lease. £60,000 but could lease £30,000 repayable on favourable terms to suitable qualified person. Write 38, Tibbets Close, Inner Park Road, Lambledon, London, SW19 6EF.

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KIRBY GRANGE INN, NR. MELTON MOWBRAY. — Important Vale of Belvoir, 4 bars freehouse/entertainments complex in 5 acres on main 'A' road. Includes luxury owners flat & possible hotel development. For Sale by Auction, 2nd April by Joint Auctioneers: Sidney Phillips, Eaton Bishop, Hereford (0981) 250333 and Trevor Lunn & Co., Nottingham (0602) 411099. (2257).
For Sale by Auction on 2nd April, 1985.

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FREEHOUSES, HOTELS & RESTAURANTS in all areas, telephone for your free list today. HELLIKER HOGG & CO, The Pump House, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1BZ (0202) 477358/9/0.

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Weekly classes held in rented hall etc. Turnover around £1 million p.a. Price negotiable. For details write N.S.16344, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

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KENT character village freehouse. 1oo bar, games rm, kit., owners 4 bed home & garden, car park. Winter takings £2,500 per week, up to £4,500 in summer. £197,500 F/H. HELLIKER HOGG. Tel: (0202) 477358.

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SOUTH DEVON — DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK. Recently retired and refurbished Free House, 5 bed owners' flat. To Auction 17th April, 1985. £180/220,000. Waycotts, 5 Fleet Street, Torquay (0803) 212551.

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Unique 32 acre site in early stages of development. Opened to the general public four years ago and close to areas of large population in East Midlands. Landscaped lakes, and woodland paths, bird hides, picnic areas, new restaurant and gift shop overlooking lake, mod. toilets, new owners/wardens bungalow on site. Substantial waterfowl collection including flamingo colony. Plans for exotic bird sections and plenty of scope for further leisure pursuits.
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Details from Charter & Co. Ltd., High Street, Alcester, Warwickshire
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PRINT AND COPY SHOP for sale (freehold) N. West. Super 3 bed. accommodation, good site ring 065 72076 between 5 and 6.30 p.m.

S. DEVON, DARTMOOR. — Unique riverside property. Freehouse, Restaurant, Tea rooms. Two apartments. Meadows for camping/caravans. Pony trekking. In all 15 acres. To auction 4th April, 1985. Waycotts, 5, Fleet St., Torquay, (0803) 212551.

SOUTH DEVON—NEAR TORQUAY. Busy Free House and Restaurant. Lounge Bar, Restaurant. Function Room/Bar. 3 bed Flat. Car Park. Beer Garden. 4 acres. To Auction 24th April 1985. Guide £185/215,000. Waycotts, 5 Fleet Street, Torquay (0803) 212521.

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WEST WALES. A most appealing main road freehouse with very real potential for expansion. Situated in busy Tourist area. T/O £55,000 p.a. PRICE £85,000 FREEHOLD. ROGER DUNN, Estate Agent, 8 Murray St, Llanelli, Dyfed, tel. 0554 751426.

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Buildings for hi-tech users lure investors

By BRUCE KINLOCH

BUILDINGS used for high technology activities have been given a separate heading in the latest investment report from agents Healey & Baker, which includes the firm's graph of movement in prime yields of investment property.

For the first time since September 1983 there has been a change in the yield structure. While retail and office returns remain unchanged the firm's monitoring of the market suggests a significant switch and a change in the definition of what is prime.

As a result, the industrial yield has increased from 6·75 p.c. to 7·25 p.c., while high-technology buildings are being bought to yield 6·75 pc. The agents define these buildings as high quality industrial with at least 35 p.c. to 40 p.c. of offices with the whole building fitted out to an office standard.

Healey & Baker say that it is clear many investors are moving their main industrial investment ambitions away from traditional warehouses with 18 feet headroom and 15 p.c. office space to the newer high technology buildings.

In fact, the specification for these new buildings is still industrial building fronted by a low-rise office building.

Today's structure is typically a two or three-storey main building specified to office standards, but with either a town planning use restricted to class three—that is, a general industrial building, with up to 50 p.c. extra ancillary offices, or alternatively class two, which is office use, with additional research and development facilities.

The lowest yield ratings of 6·75 p.c. for such buildings are only seen on locations around the M25 motorway and down the M4 corridor as far as Swindon, Wiltshire. Elsewhere high technology yields are higher, mainly because there is concern that an oversupply is building up in some areas.

Investment trends away from investments solely in industrial buildings reflect the indifferent overall returns experienced in the last three years. Rental growth in the industrial sector was limited to 3 p.c. during 1984.

Consumer and institutional interest in the retail sector remains unabated and recent marketings of small portfolios have attracted considerable interest. Few properties which have changed hands recently have met all the qualities of a prime investment.

But, according to Healey & Baker, such is the level of competition for shops which are marginally outside the definition of prime that it is clear there is a substantial unsatisfied market below yields of 4 p.c.

While there has been no change in the level of prime shops' yield since September, 1983, the level of demand for shops, the increasing rental growth and sustained consumer demand are producing pressure on retail yields to move below 3·65 p.c.

Office yields have remained unchanged at 4·75 p.c. since August 1982, reflecting a steady level of consumer and investor demand.

Office yields have remained unchanged at 4·75 p.c. since August 1982, reflecting a steady level of consumer and investor demand. Prime yield rates continue to be confined to the south-east region.

According to the agents, although there is insufficient evidence from the market place to justify a reduction in the prime yield rate, investors' attitudes suggest there is a willingness in certain quarters to contemplate lower returns for an investment that meets all their requirements.

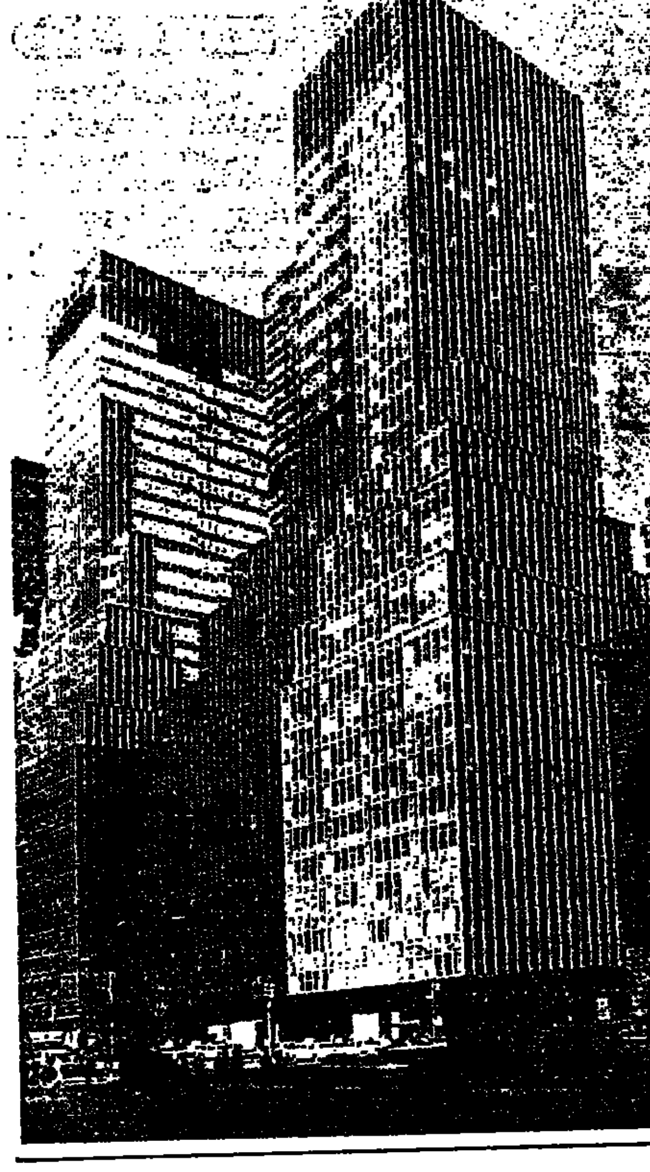
It is worth remembering that for the purpose of Healey & Baker's graph, prime properties are those located in the very best positions of the highest investment calibre. They are of the most marketable size and style and are let to good and substantial tenants

Out of total property investment only a very small sample meet all these requirements, but that does not mean that very high returns are not obtained from non-prime or less than prime investments.

London Shop £3·2m midway

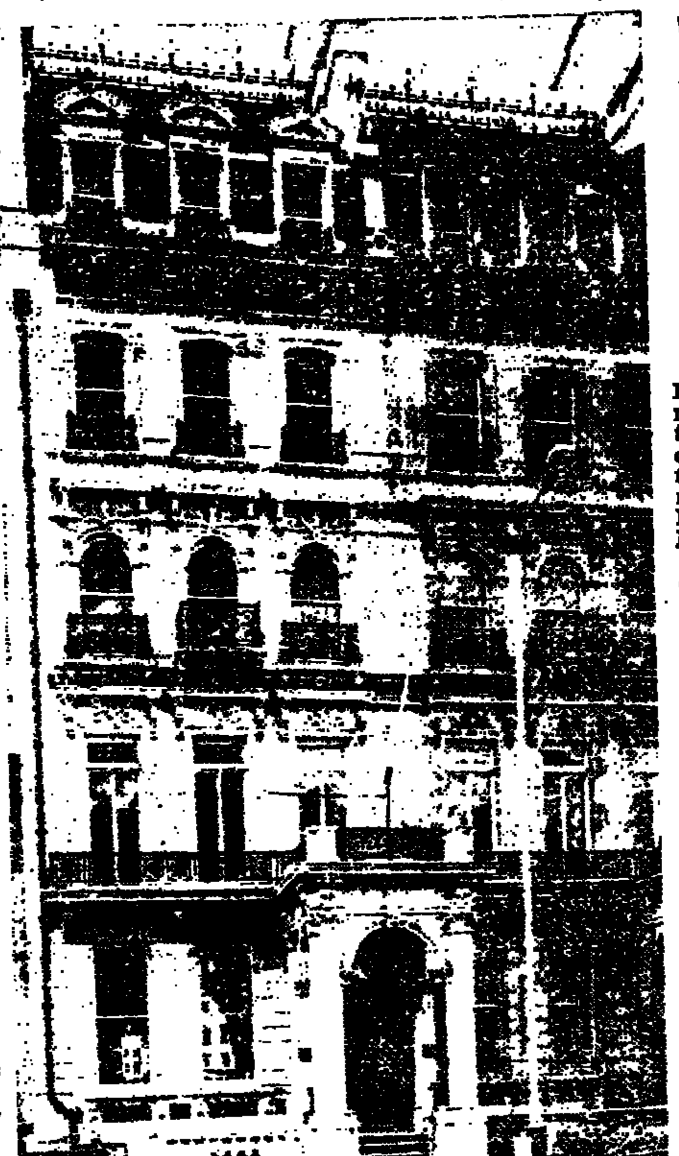
LONDON Shop Property Trust continues to improve and the interim results for the half year to Oct. 31 show pre-tax profits of £3·2 million against £2·3 million, on turnover of £5·5 million.

The interim dividend is lifted from an adjusted 1·33p to 1·35p to be pad on April 30.



The strength of the dollar has taken New York rents ahead of those of the City of London and when stated in sterling Richard Ellis's New York office has recently completed the relocation of Dr Henry Kissinger's consulting firm, Kissinger Associates, to 350 Park Avenue, Mid Manhattan, (left) where an entire floor of 7,500 sq ft has been leased at a rent of just under $45 a sq. ft (£42 a sq. ft).

This is a typical rental for the prime mid-town area of New York. For the very best space in Park Avenue, Firth Avenue and Madison Avenue rents of $45 to $50 a sq. ft have been firmly established. The top City of London rent is £40 a sq. ft.



Wheatsheaf Investments, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Grosvenor Estate, has pre-let 50 Grosvenor Gardens, Victoria, (right) through Hillier Parker to advertising and public relations consultants Vallin Pollen at a rent of £130,000 a year, which equates to £16·25 a sq. ft. The property, which has been the subject of a comprehensive refurbishment and reconstruction programme, has a total floor area of some 8,000 sq. ft. The space has been let for 25 years with a rent review every fifth year. The original period style features at the ground and first floors have been retained, but a new lift has been installed together with central heating and carpeting. The tenant was represented by Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks.

Water fund plan for joint £35m Maidenhead development

PROPOSALS have been submitted by the Water Authorities Superannuation Scheme in conjunction with Gabriel Securities for a £35 million redevelopment of the former Black & Decker headquarters in Cannon Lane, Maidenhead.

Contracts have been exchanged on the purchase and completion will take place later this year, say Jones Lang Wootton which advised the fund in the acquisition and is now to project-manage the development.

The project will encompass 270,000 sq. ft. of high-technology accommodation in units ranging from 20,000 sq. ft. and incorporating research and development and office space in line with the proven user requirements for the area.

Completion of the first phase is scheduled for the summer of 1986 and potentioal tenants will have the opportunity of taking purpose-built design unots in an ideal environment for high technology space. The development overlooks Green Belt land

The water authorities fund has been leading the field in high-technology accommodation investment and this Maidenhead project follows the 221 Concept, at Slough, where the entire 95,000 sq. ft. evelopment was recently let to Wordplex.

Manchester sets sights higher

MANCHESTER office rents are rising—that is the general view of a cross-section of the estate agents and developers operating in the city.

A few months ago the £7 a sq. ft barrier for office rents had yet to be breached.

But that has now happened and the most bullish in the property industry are now looking for £7·50 before the end of 1985.

It is not only in the central area that rents of £7 have been achieved. In the decentralised market in Wilmslow the best space has topped £7 per ft. This is encouraging news for, while there remains an over-supply of secondhand offices in central Manchester, there is only 40,000 sq. ft of new offices on the market.

According to Tom Marshall, of agents W. H. Robinson, over the next 18 months 200,000 sq. ft of space will come on to the Central Manchester office letting market which may lead to a slight over-supply of new space.

At present the market in new offices is well balanced and rents tend to be edging up rather than soaring. But Mr Marshall believes that there could be a shortage of space in the short term which would serve to push up rents.

When it comes to secondhand property there is a massive oversupply. In fact no one seems to know exactly how much space is vacant or on the market.

Some estimates put it at more than 800,000 sq. ft while others prefer to divide the secondhand space into that which could let in an active market and space which will only be used when it is demolished and parked on.

Most of the current demand for offices in Central Manchester comes from insurance companies, accountants and solicitors. There has been little activity among industrial companies, but if those begin to expand again there could be a serious shortage of supply and a corresponding increase in rents.

Ken Bailey, senior partner of Dunlop Heywood, says there is a steady increase in the level of industrial lettings in and around Manchester with several large inquiries around the market. He also says that there is an increasing investment market, particularly for shops.

Orbit developments' Crown House, at Wilmslow appears to be letting well. Already three floors have been taken in the 20,500 sq ft development at the corner of Manchester Road and Station Road.

Rents of £7 a sq ft have been obtained from tenants which include the Japanese Ricoh group and Standard Telephones & Cables.

G R E completes Lovat Lane

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange Assurance has completed the development of 14 Lovat Lane, in the EC3 postal district of the City, the largest office building in the City Village redevelopment.

The building has a total floor area of 18,500 sq ft of air-conditioned offices and joint agents Gooch & Wagstaff and Collier & Madge are seeking a rent of £465,000 a year equating to £23·15 a sq ft.

Ellis-Wotton link

RARELY are the two largest estate agents Richard Ellis and Jones Lang Wootton jointly appointed to let a building, but nothing is too good for Central & City Properties and the two firms are looking for a tenant for the 14,600 sq.ft. Gardiners Plaza development at 25 Camberdown Street on the eastern fringe of the City of London.

Central & City and the Mactaggart Third Fund, controlled by Sir Ian Mactaggart, is about to start another office development, this time 26,000 sq.ft of offices at the junction of Fenchurch Street and Leadenhall Street in the City.

Agents for this scheme are Robert Cutts and Company and Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks.

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(01/39026/NTP/CHD)

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Afan Borough Council, Aberavon Seafront
PORT TALBOT
West Glamorgan SA12 6JE.
Telephone: (0639) 883141
Afan

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with total area of 13,790 sq. ft.
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SHOPS AND OFFICES
HATTON GARDEN Shop for sale. Write H.G.16452, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.
BUSH HOUSE/STRAND, LONDON. Arcade shop to let. £4,000-£5,000 PAX. Subject to contract, suit Hoel Bar or similar. Healey & Baker. 01-629 9292.
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1,800 sq. ft. GARAGE WORKSHOP
Adjacent Concrete Standing Area and 2 ACRE fully fenced hardstanding Car Park. The property also has the benefit of being adjacent to a Railway Siding.
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RE: C.R.G. (PLANT HIRE) LTD in liquidation. Auction sale of heavy plant, vehicles and equipment at Whitstable, Kent. Wednesday, 13th March. Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Frank Wood & Co., 34, Watling Street, Canterbury. (0227) 66461.

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AGENTS for established company to sell attractive top quality products to hardware depts, large stores, architects, golf clubs and sports halls etc. Good back up service. Opportunities for persons or companies with existing experience. We are looking for sales continuity and establishment. Apply with details to A.F.16448, Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

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Limited Company situated in N.W. England with adequate staff and warehouse space, wishes to buy and distribute suitable products in N.W. and/or North England. (Not fire or burglar alarms or C.H. boiler systems and similar). Adequate finance available.
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WALES, AGENT REQUIRED to cover North, Mid & possibly South Wales to sell pottery, glass & china. Apply Desmond Cooper & Co., 53 Regent Place, Birmingham, B1 3NW. 021-236 7161.

Sport...ON 3 PAGES

IPSWICH BLOCK TO MERSEYSIDE WEMBLEY DUEL

By DONALD SAUNDERS

PROSPECTS of the first all-Merseyside final in the long history of the FA Cup improved yesterday when Liverpool and their neighbours, Everton, were kept apart in the draw for the semi-finals on April 13.

But Ipswich could quickly wreck the plans of thousands of Merseyside fans contemplating a trip to Wembley on May 18 by defeating Everton in a quarter-final replay at Portman Road tomorrow night.

And Manchester United can be relied on to do their utmost to prevent Liverpool from keeping their Wembley date by beating them in one of the semi-finals, ironically on Everton's Goodison Park pitch.

Meanwhile, Luton and Millwall, who will try at Kenilworth Road tomorrow night to decide which of them tackles Ipswich or Everton in the other semi-final, will be pleased to have avoided Liverpool and United.

Fair record

In contrast, most neutrals will be sorry that another great Liverpool-Manchester United Wembley final is now out of the question this season.

"What a great final it would have made," commented Ron Atkinson, United's manager. "This semi-final could not be harder for either side.

"Still, we have a fair record against Liverpool and if you have to beat them to win the Cup it is just as well to meet them in the semi-final."

Joe Fagan, Liverpool's manager, forecast that the match would be a "bit special." He went on: "Both teams can play a bit and the atmosphere will be electric, especially now the game is at Goodison."

Millions of television fans will be able to judge the form of the two clubs when ITV screen Liverpool's League match with United, live from Anfield, on Sunday fortnight — 13 days before the semi-final.

The last time this pair met in a semi-final in 1979, they began at Maine Road with a 2-2 draw, before United won the replay at Goodison with a goal from Jimmy Greenhoff.

Only five players who appeared in that tie will be available for duty this time. United can call on Gary Bailey and Arthur Albiston, while Liverpool will hope to field Phil Neal, Alan Hansen and Kenny Dalglish.

If Everton win their replay at Ipswich, their semi-final against Luton or Millwall will be at Villa Park. An Ipswich victory tomorrow night would earn a semi-final against Luton or Millwall at White Hart Lane.

Kept apart

Howard Kendall, Everton's manager, refused to comment on the possibilities of a Wembley clash with Liverpool. "Let's get Ipswich out of the way first," he said. "The two Merseyside clubs have been kept apart in the semi-finals before only to be disappointed in the end."

The only certainty, at present, is that Lancashire will be represented for a record-breaking 55th time in the 57th Wembley FA Cup Final.

Semi-finals draw

Luton or Millwall v Everton or Ipswich
(At Villa Pk if Everton win; at White Hart Lane if Ipswich win).
Man Utd v Liverpool.
(At Goodison Pk)
Ties to be played April 13.

SCOTTISH FA CUP SEMI-FINAL DRAW

Dundee Utd v Hearts or Aberdeen
Motherwell v Dundee or Celtic
Ties to be played on April 13. Venues to be decided after quarter-final replays.

NO CHANGE BY ATKINSON

MANCHESTER UNITED have decided not to risk Bryan Robson's "still slightly painful" shoulder in tonight's crucial Championship match at Tottenham, where rugged Graham Roberts returns, after UEFA suspension, to the home defence, writes **Roger Malone**.

"There's no pressure to get Bryan in," says Ron Atkinson, the manager, reflecting on United's unbeaten run of eight games since England's captain and midfield dynamo dislocated his shoulder.

United keep the side which scored four times in removing West Ham from the FA Cup. For Spurs, whose recent away wins have lifted them to second place, five points ahead of United, tonight represents a two-pronged opportunity.

Home advantage

They can climb a point over Everton into first place, and prove that their preponderance of home games left — 10 compared to only five away — is the key factor in the title race.

Arsenal and **Crystal Palace**, appearing at a League tribunal yesterday to answer charges of breaching transfer regulations regarding Peter Nicholas and Chris Whyte joining Palace last year, went unpunished. They "amicably settled" differences.

EXTRA TICKETS

Norwich City, who have been told they can have an extra 5,000 Wembley tickets to satisfy their supporters, are to ask for more to help cope with the demand for their Milk Cup final against Sunderland on Sunday, March 24. Norwich acted after angry scenes outside their ground when 30,000 vouchers were snapped up before Saturday's match with Aston Villa.

YOUTH CUP DRAW

The draw for the semi-finals of the FA Youth Cup (two legs) made in London yesterday is:

Millwall or Barnsley v Watford or Mansfield; Newcastle or Coventry v Birmingham.
(Ties to be completed by April 7)

Soccer

Cold War favours England

By ROGER MALONE

INFORMATION received by the FA from the Foreign Office adds weight to the theory that England could snatch the hosting of the 1988 European Championships from West Germany.

The decision by UEFA's executive committee is to be made in Lisbon on Friday. A month ago, the organising committee made West Germany their first choice, with England second, but specified that West Berlin should not stage any games.

That specification has been causing a continuing outcry in German political and social circles, because of the East-West feeling about West Berlin's special status.

Assurances given

It is suspected that Eastern bloc delegates of UEFA backed the West German FA's application only on the understanding West Berlin be denied any fixtures.

And yesterday Ted Croker, the FA secretary said: "We have been informed through the Foreign Office that the German government has directed it will not back West Germany hosting the tournament unless West Berlin is used as one of the venues.

"Government support is one of the assurances UEFA ask for, and we are able to give that. We have submitted a further letter with emphasis on the support we have been given by our Government.

"This gives us a very good chance because I don't think UEFA will want to embark on a political battle about a tournament as important as this. They will now have to consider the situation very carefully, but given the overall situation, we are very optimistic of being given the Championships."

Everton, for tomorrow's FA Cup replay at **Ipswich**, have Kevin Sheedy under intensive treatment for a thigh injury suffered in training yesterday. **Millwall**, for their sixth-round tie at **Luton**, expect Nicky Chatterton's virus to clear in time.

Steve Bruce, whose goal put **Norwich** in the Milk Cup final, is almost certain to be out of the side, with ankle injury, for Saturday's League game against **Sunderland**, their Wembley opponents eight days later.

Sunderland, upset by scenes at Roker Park and Stamford Bridge in the two-legged semi-final, have banned **Chelsea** supporters from the League game at Roker on March 30.

VAUGHAN ON LOAN

Charlton have signed West Ham's reserve goalkeeper, John Vaughan, on loan until the end of the season.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

CANON LEAGUE—Div. IV
Stockport (0) 2 Hereford (0) 1
Kerr, Leonard — Harvey (pen.)
—1,750

WORLD CUP. — CONCACAF Qualif. Group 1: El Salvador 1, Honduras 2 (San Salvador).
FOOTBALL COMB. — Millwall 0, Brighton 1.
CENTRAL LGE.—Div 1: Newcastle 1, Barnsley 1. Div 2: Leicester 3, Bolton 1, Middlesbrough 0, Grimsby 2.
BIRMINGHAM SNR CUP.—Semi-final: W. Bromwich Alb. 1, Wednesfield Soc. 3.
LONDON SNR CUP.—3rd Rd Replay: Finchley 3, Crays & M. 1.
SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LGE.—Prem Div: Croydon 3, Hendon 0.
NORTHERN PREM LGE.—Horwich 1, Goole 2; Stafford 1, Mossley 0.
RUGBY UNION. — Abertillery 28, Torquay Ath 4—Glamorgan Wand 8, Newbridge 16.

BILLIARDS

EUROTHERM WORLD CH'SHIP (Hatton Gdn SC, London): 1st Rd: F. Davis (Stoke) bt C. Everton (Birmingham) 3-1 (400-273, 402-206, 293-400, 400-136).
—ADD BILLIARDS —
QTR-FINALS.—N. Dagley (Ex-U) bt J. Kermeen (Crawhorne) 5-0 (400-24, 400-294, 400-59).

Kevin Sheedy . . . thigh strain makes him doubtful for the Ipswich replay.

European Soccer

Ajax and Bayern closer to titles

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

AJAX and Bayern Munich, giants of Europe in the early 1970s, took significant strides towards next season's European Cup, both winning while their nearest rivals could only draw. They increased their respective leads in Holland and West Germany to three points.

Ajax beat **NAC Breda** 6-1, while **PSV Eindhoven** were drawing 2-2 away to **Feyenoord**.

Bayern's 2-0 win in **Cologne**, with goals from Dieter Hoeness and Lothar Matthaeus, had a similar effect, because **Werder Bremen** were held 1-1 at **Mannheim**.

Fortuna Sittard, suitably chastised at Everton in mid-week and poor marksmen in the League, surprised **Sparta Rotterdam** with a 5-0 win, to stay in mid-table in Holland.

Nine for Dynamo

In East Germany, **Dynamo Berlin** hoisted their total of goals to 59 in 17 matches by rattling in nine against hapless **Stahl Riesa**. They have a three-point advantage over **Dynamo Dresden**.

With the Italian League inactive because of tomorrow's international in Greece, chief interest there concerned a scratch representative game in Bergamo between a League selection and a team of foreign imports, which ended 2-2.

Diego Maradona scored for the Exiles, whose other effort came from Giuseppe Zandona, of Avellino, a Libyan-born sweeper, who at 29 is playing in the First Division for the first time.

League leaders **Verona** also decided the time was right for some shooting practice and took seven goals off a modest Danish touring side in a one-sided friendly.

Barcelona again

Terry Venables' **Barcelona**, easing their way to the Spanish title, maintained their 11-point lead with an own goal against **Malaga**.

Real Madrid forward Valdano struck twice early on in their 3-2 win over **Betis** and has caught Steve Archibald and Hugo Sanchez (Atletico Madrid) as joint top-scorers on 15 goals.

OVERSEAS SOCCER

SPANISH LGE.—Barcelona 1, Malaga 0—Gijon 4, Hercules 0—Sevilla 2. At Madrid 4—Valladolid 1, Valencia 0—Ath Bilbao 1, Murcia 0—Santander 1, Real Sociedad 0—Real Madrid 3, Betis 2—Zaragoza 1, Osasuna 2—Elche 0, Espanol 5. Leading positions: Barcelona 28 games, 44pts; At. Madrid 28-35; Gijon 28-34.
W. GERMAN LGE.—Cologne 0, Bayern Munich 2—Borussia Mgdbmgladbach 1, Bayer Leverkusen 1—Fortuna Duesseldorf 1, Arminia Bielefeld 1—Hamburger SV 0, Karlsruher 0—Eintracht Frankfurt 2, Eintracht Braunschweig 0—VFL Bochum 4, Borussia Dortmund 1—Waldhof Mannheim 1, Werder Bremen 1. Leading positions: Bayern Munich 22 games, 31pts; Werder Bremen 21-28; Bayer Leverkusen 21-25.
DUTCH LGE.—Roda JC Kerkrade 1, Volendam 0—Feyenoord Rotterdam 2, PSV Eindhoven 2—Utrecht 0, Haarlem 2—Groningen 1, PEC Zwolle 0—Den Haag 0, SVV Maastricht 2—Fortuna Sittard 5, Sparta Rotterdam 0—Ajax Amsterdam 6, NAC Breda 1—GA Eagles Deventer 2, Twente Enschede 1—AZ '67 Alkmaar 1, Excelsior Rotterdam 1. Leading positions: Ajax 20 games, 35pts; PSV 20-32; Feyenoord 18-27.
BELGIAN LGE.—Seraing 2, Lokeren 1—Kortrijk 0, Standard Liege 0—Antwerp 0, Beveren 0—Lierse 0, Cercle Brugge 2—Racing Jet 1, FC Liege 2—FC Bruges 3, Beerschot 1—St Niklaas 1, Waregem 2—Waterschei 2, Mechlin 0—AA Ghent 0, Anderlecht 1. Leading positions: Anderlecht 22 games 39 pts; Waregem 22-33; FC Liege 22-31.

BATTLE ON AT CHESHAM

By NEIL SCOTT

CHESHAM'S battle to beat the financial crisis which threatens the club's future enters another critical phase next week when officials meet the trustees of the ground.

The Servowarm Isthmian club have been given approval by members to form a limited company with executive directors, but first they must get the trustees to agree.

If the meeting, next Tuesday goes according to plan for the 68-year-old Buckinghamshire club, directors and a new chairman will be appointed.

The bank, which threatened Chesham with a winding-up order last month unless a £20,000 loan was repaid, has now given the club an extension.

Sponsor sought

Windsor and Eton, a Premier Division club whose patron is Prince Philip, are seeking a sponsor to help with developments on and off the field.

Alec Drummie, the club secretary, said: "Most clubs have sponsors, but we have been without one this season and I believe our success in League and Cups makes us an attractive proposition."

Water Ski-ing

STEADY DUVAL TAKES TITLE

The consistency of Sammy Duval, of the United States, earned him the overall championship in the Moomba Masters Water Ski Classic at Melbourne. Though he did not win gold medals in all three disciplines, Duval was able to relegate Mike Hazelwood of Britain, into second place.

Hazelwood took the gold medal in the jumping and, as bonus, won a car for clearing 200 feet in the first round. Duval's best effort was 198 feet.

OVERALL.—S. Duval (US). Slalom: B. Tinkler. Figures: M. Neville. Jumping: W. Hazelwood (GB).
WOMEN.—Overall: K. Sonkell. Slalom: Sonkell. Figures: K. Robertson (US). Jumping: S. Lipplegore.

Boxing

McGUIGAN OFFER RENEWED

By KEN MAYS

FRANK WARREN, the London promoter, has made a repeat offer to Barry McGuigan, the British and European featherweight champion, of a World Boxing Association challenge to Eusebio Pedroza, of Panama, in London this summer.

The original offer two weeks ago was refused by Barney Eastwood, McGuigan's manager, but Pedroza has not accepted Mr Eastwood's terms for a contest.

Pedroza agreed to fight for Mr Warren on condition that the contest takes place in London, not Belfast, but Mr Warren has promised McGuigan that if he wins the title his first defence will be in his home country.

"McGuigan would have to make a voluntary defence within 90 days against Bernard Taylor, of the United States, and I have agreed terms with him to challenge in Belfast," stressed Mr Warren.

McGuigan, whose first commitment is to Mr Warren's rival, Mike Barrett, at Wembley on March 26, when he defends his European title against Farid Gallouze, of France, has fully recovered from influenza, which prevented him training last week.

Sylvester Mittee makes the first defence of his Commonwealth welterweight title against Martin McCough (Coventry) at the Dolphin Centre, Darlington on April 13, when Rocky Kelly (Acton) and Kostas Petrou (Birmingham) meet for the vacant British title.

Lawn Tennis

FRANCE FALL IN FRACAS

By A Special Correspondent

Police wielding night sticks moved in quickly to subdue a major crowd disturbance after Yannick Noah became involved in an incident with a spectator as France crashed 3-2 to Paraguay in Asuncion in the first round of the Davis Cup.

In the final and decisive rubber in which Victor Pecci beat Henri Leconte 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, Noah, who was sitting courtside, first threw a racket at a spectator who shouted a hostile remark at his team mate at 1-1 in the second set and then moved aggressively towards the man as if ready to fight.

The match was interrupted and initially it was announced that play would be suspended overnight but after more angry crowd scenes during which the police moved in, it was agreed to carry on.

Earlier reports that the distracting call had come from a linesman who was then said to have been attacked by Leconte and French captain Jean-Paul Loth, denied, but a full inquiry by the International Tennis Federation, seems certain.

Paraguay 3, France 2 (Asuncion—Mexico 3, Peru 2 (Mexico City) 1 (Chicago)—W. Germany 3, Spain (Toronto) 4. Commonwealth Caribbean 2 (Scarborough)—Wales 3, Hongkong 2 (Shatin). Ecuador lead Argentina 3-1 (Buenos Aires), Colombia lead Uruguay 2-1 (Punta del Este).

Cricket

COWDREY ON MEND

Kent's new captain Chris Cowdrey, who sustained a broken bone in his left wrist with England in Australia will be available for pre-season training which starts on April 1.

Lawn Tennis

Anxious Durie has nothing to lose

By JOHN PARSONS in Dallas

JO DURIE, 24, seemingly more relaxed and confident after a three-week break because of influenza and a brief, but bracing ski-ing holiday, seems likely to suffer yet another early defeat in the Virginia Slims at Dallas tonight.

Yet, ironically, her match against Martina Navratilova, the world champion, also provides the British Number One with a splendid opportunity to check the depressing slide there has been in her game generally.

For once, Miss Durie, who has slipped from sixth to 34th in the world rankings since the start of last year and has been a comfortable target for almost everyone she has played in the meantime, will have nothing to prove or lose.

Here will be an ideal opportunity for her to go for that broader range of strokes she has been developing, without becoming tentative, and then reckless under the added pressure of trying to turn good positions into victories.

Miss Durie has never beaten Miss Navratilova, who herself will be anxious following her defeat in New Jersey last week. She has, however, played some fine matches against her.

Overnight delay

At their last meeting in the quarter-finals of the Australian Open in 1983, Miss Durie won the first set 6-4, and there were many who felt the Bristol girl might have gone on to win, but for the overnight delay caused by light rain that made the court slippery.

Sadly, that was one of the last really outstanding matches Miss Durie has played.

If that contest marked the beginning of a decline, tonight's could provide the opportunity for Miss Durie to play the style of tennis that will restore her self-confidence.

Three weeks ago, Bonnie Gadusek, ranked 12 in the world, suffered a major blow to her morale when she was beaten in Delray by the game's latest prodigy, Mary Joe Fernandez, 13.

It was a defeat which immediately prompted Miss Gadusek, hitherto a slow-court specialist, to develop a more aggressive game and even to return to Wimbledon this year for the first time since she played there as a junior in 1980.

Her newly found power on a whipped forehand and a much more potent serve, was fully reflected as the American trounced Ann Minter of Australia 6-1, 6-2 in 50 minutes in the opening match of the tournament.

An unfamiliar name among the qualifiers here is Dianne Balestrat. She is the former Dianne Fromholtz, who has returned to the circuit after two years' absence and is hoping to re-establish the form which carried her to fourth place in the world in 1979.

"I am enjoying it very much and will give it a few months to see how things go," said Dianne, whose Australian husband is accompanying her on the tour.

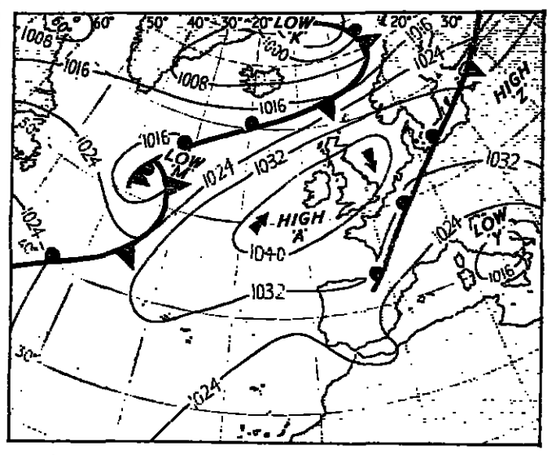
WILD CARD FOR WEST GERMANY

West Germany have been given a wild card entry into the eight-nation World Team Lawn Tennis Cup in Dusseldorf.

The Germans' 3-2 win over Spain in the first round of the Davis Cup World Group at the weekend elicited their invitation to compete in the tournament on May 20-26.

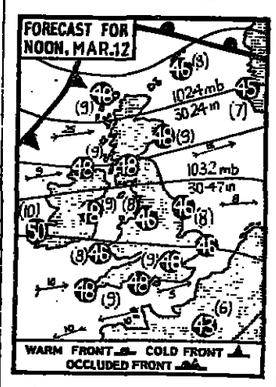
BELGIUM INDOOR CH'SHIPS (Brussels).—J. Hlasek (Switzerland) bt P. Slozil (Czechoslovakia) 6-1, 6-2; M. Mirka (U.S.) bt M. Dilgana (U.S.) 6-1, 6-1 (rtd, injd). J. Lloyd (G.B.) bt C. Mehlert (U.S.) 6-1, 6-4.

ATLANTIC WEATHER—Noon March 11



Highs "A" and "Z" will move south west and decline a little. Low "M" will move quickly north east and Low "K" will move east both with little change of pressure. Low "Y" will be slow moving.

BRITISH ISLES



Issued at 6.30 p.m.

Black circles show temperatures expected in Fahrenheit. The equivalent temperature in Centigrade is given alongside in brackets. Arrows indicate wind direction and speed in m.p.h. Pressures in millibars and inches.

SKI-ING CONDITIONS

The following reports were supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain.

Resort	Depth (inches)	Lifts	Piste	Conditions	Weather & Temp (C)	5 pm
Montana	30	12/0	h	cr	1s	3s
Davos	30	1/0	s	pd	sn	0s
Saas Fee	30	2/0	s	c	cl	3s
Zermatt	30	7/0	s	c	cl	3s
Kitzbühel	15	7/5	w	pd	sn	0s
Les Arcs	60	18/0	sa	c	cl	2s
St. Moritz	80	0/0	s	c	cl	2s
Verbier	60	10/0	s	c	cl	2s
Wengen	40	1/0	s	cr	sn	3s

KEY: Lifts: 1—lower, 2—upper, 3—cable car, 4—chairs, 5—T-bars, 6—drag lifts, 7—all open, 8—some open, 9—none open. Piste: h—hard, s—soft, w—wet, a—avalanche danger. Conditions: c—crud, m—mogul, p—powder, pd—powder dry, cr—crust, i—icy, sl—slush, sn—snow, s2—spring thaw, s3—serious thaw, w—warm, depths in centimetres, temperatures in Fahrenheit.

SCOTLAND: Lifts: 1—lower, 2—upper, 3—cable car, 4—chairs, 5—T-bars, 6—drag lifts, 7—all open, 8—some open, 9—none open. Piste: h—hard, s—soft, p—powder, pd—powder dry, c—crud, cr—crust, i—icy, sl—slush, sn—snow, s2—spring thaw, s3—serious thaw, w—warm, depths in centimetres, temperatures in Fahrenheit.

Conditions: c—crud, m—mogul, p—powder, pd—powder dry, cr—crust, i—icy, sl—slush, sn—snow, s2—spring thaw, s3—serious thaw, w—warm, depths in centimetres, temperatures in Fahrenheit.

Lower runs: Cairngorm, Aviemore, Glenshee, Glencoe, Glen Nevis, Glen Coe, Glen Lyon, Glen Ogle, Glen Shee, Glen Clova, Glen Doll, Glen Esk, Glen Tanar

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Course Notes & Hints

Promising is Best of the Day

By Our Course Correspondent

DAVID NICHOLSON'S stable, in the doldrums with a virus this season, is running into form and VERY PROMISING* may provide his first Cheltenham Festival winner in today's Arkle Challenge Trophy 'Chase (2.50).

Third to Dawn Run and Cima in last year's Champion Hurdle, Very Promising has taken well to fences this season and gave his best performance when beating Townley Stone at Newbury last time.

Charter Party is expected to go close to completing a double for Nicholson in the Kim Muir Memorial Challenge Cup Handicap 'Chase (4.40), but Brunton Park may prove the pick of the weights.

Double chance

Brunton Park beat Saturday's Doncaster winner Book of Kells with some authority at Market Rasen last time and looks well handicapped with 10st 10lb.

Monica Dickinson, trainer of Brunton Park, may initiate a double with Browne's Gazette, who can justify favouritism in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle Challenge Trophy (3.30). The Irish are fancied to get off to a flying start with Sierra Baron in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle (2.15).

COURSE SPECIALISTS

CHELTENHAM

Course winners. — 2.15 (2m hdle): Charcoal Wally (2m hdle). Just Alick (2m hdle). Terryash (2m hdle). 2.50 (2m 'ch): Destiny Bay (2m 'ch). Freight Forwarder (2m 'ch three times). Roadster (2½m 'ch). 3.30 (2m hdle): Amarach (2m hdle). Browne's Gazette (2m hdle twice). Robin Wonder (2m hdle twice). Statesmanship (2m hdle) Stans Pride (2½ hdle). 4.5 (3m 1f hdle): Aonoch (2m hdle). Church Warden (3m 1f hdle). Crimson Embers (3m 1f hdle) Malford Lad (2½m hdle twice). Mossmorran (3m hdle). Buckbe (2½m hdle twice). Rose Ravine (2½m hdle). 4.40 (3m 'ch): Glyde Court (2m hdle. 3m 1f 'ch). Assured (2½m 'ch). 5.15 (2m 'ch): Kathies Lad (2m 'ch). Restless Shot (2m 'ch twice). Toirdealbhach (2m 'ch twice). Walnut Wonder (2m 'ch). King's Jug (2m 'ch).

Jockeys (since Aug., 1979): Francome 37. Linley 19. Rowe 18. Scudamore 18. J. O'Neill 15. Morshead 15. Mr A. J. Wilson 12. Smith Eccles 10. Barton 8. Brown 8. Davies 8. Webber 8.

Trainers: Winter 49. In Ireland 33. Walwyn 28. Gifford 27. M. H. Easterby 14. Elsworth 13. Mrs Rimell 13. Henderson 10. L. Kennard 10. Mellor 10. Tate 10. Edwards 9. Forster 8. Nicholson 8. G. Richards 8.

'GAZETTE' HAS SOUND CLAIMS IN CHAMPION

By HOTSPUR (Peter Scott)

BROWNE'S GAZETTE, easy winner of the two races he has run at Cheltenham, is back there today and should firmly establish himself as the season's top hurdler by defeating the 1983 champion, Gaye Brief in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle.

Ten wins from 12 starts is the hurdling record of Browne's Gazette. It has been spoilt only by a fall at the last flight of a Huntingdon race 13 months ago and a two-length defeat when not fully fit at Newcastle last October.

His most notable performance last season was a 10-length victory in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham.

He beat Gaye Brief for the Bula Hurdle there in December and was even more spectacular at Kempton Park on Boxing Day.

Desert Orchid, See You Then and Ra Nova were Champion Hurdle hopes beaten by wide margins there as Browne's Gazette stormed home 15 lengths clear in the Ladbroke Christmas Hurdle.

Sharpened up by an easy win at Kelso two weeks ago, Browne's Gazette tackles the Champion Hurdle with no doubts about his form and fitness.

The same cannot be said about Gaye Brief, off the course since failing by eight lengths to concede Browne's Gazette 6lb in the Bula Hurdle on Dec. 8.

Torn back ligaments kept Gaye Brief out of the last year's Champion Hurdle, and his jumping in the Bula Hurdle suggested something again might be wrong.

Comedy of Errors, another Rimell stable star, won the Champion Hurdle twice with a year in between, but the younger Browne's Gazette (nap) should prevent Gaye Brief's doing likewise.

Desert Orchid, See You Then and Ra Nova have won less-competitive events since being so heavily defeated by Browne's Gazette at Kempton Park, but the Champion Hurdle is a good race for favourites, with nine having won in the last 16 years.

Ararun, a possible Champion Hurdle candidate before his Leopardstown defeat by Fredcoteri last month, can win the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle. *A course of swimming has kept him fit after his recent hock strain.*

That courageous mare Rose Ravine *should take full advantage* of her 5lb sex allowance to win the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle.

Townley Stone, impressive in his first two races this season, was below his best when afterwards twice beaten. John Webber has brought Townley Stone steadily back to form, and he is fancied for the Arkle Trophy.

Burrough Hill Lad, who cut *his off-fore knee at exercise on* Saturday, is still undergoing treatment. Jenny Pitman may delay a decision about Thursday's Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup until the official withdrawal time tomorrow morning.

Run guarantee

News of his injury has encouraged a large acceptance, and 21 were left in at yesterday's declaration. Burrough Hill Lad, once a 2-1 on chance to repeat last year's victory, is now offered at evens by Ladbroke's, with the run guaranteed concession.

Ladbroke's and other leading firms have now issued prices that ignore Burrough Hill Lad and would be payable over the *second horse, should Burrough* Hill Lad run and win.

Drumadowney *is a 5-1 chance* on this basis, with Combs Ditch *top-priced at 11-2 and Earls Brig* at 6-1. Forgive 'N' Forget and Rightband Man are 13-2 chances with the Tote. Hill's offer 10-1 against Wayward Lad.

Browne's Gazette . . . Champion Hurdle favourite.

TODAY'S CHELTENHAM SELECTIONS

HOTSPUR	COURSE CORR.	FORM
2.15—Ararun	2.15—Sierra Baron	2.15—ARARUN (nap)
2.50—Townley Stone	2.50—VERY PROMISING (nap)	2.50—Karenomore
3.30—BROWNE'S GAZETTE (nap)	3.30—Browne's Gazette	3.30—Browne's Gazette
4. 5—Rose Ravine	—	4. 5—Rose Ravine
4.40—Brunton Park	4.40—Brunton Park	4.40—Seskin Bridge
5.15—Kathies Lad		5.15—Toirdealbhach

HOTSPUR'S DOUBLE.—Brown Gazette and Rose Ravine

TONY STAFFORD.—Boreen Prince (2.50)

Brassey happy to avoid easy route

By DANIEL COUPLAND

KIM BRASSEY does not believe in taking the easy road to success and little more than a year after being offered the opportunity to train privately for Mahmoud Foustok, he has no regrets that he turned down the chance of *instant stardom.*

"It was very flattering to be asked," Brassey said. "But I didn't want to abandon faithful owners who had helped establish me, so I had no hesitation in refusing."

Since taking out a licence to train with 18 boxes at Upper Lambourn in 1981, Brassey, 29, has made a big impact, *and with nine new owners* and a staff of 24, he begins the Flat season with 60 horses.

Last week Sheikh Mohammed Al Sabah became his latest owner *when sending three horses.* Two came from Ben Hanbury's stable — Sharp Noble, an unraced Sharpen Up colt who cost 200,000gns, and Adhari, a formidable juvenile filly, who cost 130,000gns.

Their prices reflect how far Brassey has come in the short time since he started training with a mixed string of mainly *Hungarian-bred horses,* his first victory coming with Mishou *l'Armour in a Devon and Exeter* novices' hurdle on Jan. 1, 1982.

Ambition to train

Brassey began *as* an eager-to-learn stable lad, with an ambi*tion to train,* with Tim Forster, and he exudes confidence and belief in his ability, having further sampled the training methods of Charlie Millbank in France, Jan Nerud in Florida, as well as Nick Vigors in Lambourn.

Brassey also travelled round United States stud farms with Humphrey Finney, chairman of Fasig-Tipton sales, and that experience helped give him an eye *for a horse, which* was borne out when Seven Hearts, purchased from William Hastings-Bass, gave him the first of 12 wins from only 19 runners in his first season on the Flat in 1982.

Another 19 victories were added in 1983 and 23 last season, which was highlighted by five wins for his table in a week, cul*minating with Indian Rajah's* landing *one of the big gambles of the year in the Bet With The Tote Handicap at Thirsk on June 2.*

"I thought he was a good thing," said Brassey. "He was unbeaten as a juvenile but chipped a bone in his knee after finishing fourth in Salisbury's 2,000 Guineas Trial when trained by John Sutcliffe.

Two days to pay

"*He came to us sound* and although he blew up in his first race *for 16 months,* he was working brilliantly at home. All the lads were on him at Thirsk and it took two days before the Lambourn bookies could pay out."

Destroyers win at Newmarket, after finishing eighth in the St Leger, also gave Brassey special pleasure last season and he thinks that if the colt continues his improvement, he could make up into an Ascot Gold Cup contender.

Brassey has upgraded his stable and many of his two-year-olds will take some time to come to themselves, but he picks out Charcoal, a Pitskelly colt, as an early type to do well.

Smooch, Restless Rhapsody and Kharrana are others among a promising *batch of juveniles* worth keeping an eye on this season, when *Simon Whitworth,* 25, will be riding as stable jockey to form one of the most youthful partnerships in racing.

The turn of the year began well for the Brassey family when Kim's father, Hugh, was knighted in the New Year's Honours List for his services *to the Yeoman of the Guard.*

Kim's wife Alison is expecting their first baby in May, and if events run in threes, he is hoping to pass last season's best total of 23 wins with some notable races under his belt. "The Ascot Gold Cup would be nice," he said.

21 IN GOLD CUP

The 21 four-day declarations for the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup, run over 3¼m on Thursday, are:

Ballinacurra Lad, Boreen Prince, Bregawn, Buck House, Burrough Hill Lad, Combs Ditch, Door Latch, Drumadowney, Earls Brig, Excursion, Final Argument, Forgive 'N Forget, Greenwood Lad, Half Free, Homeson, Rainbow Warrior, Rightband Man, Scot Lane, Solmudia Boy, Wayward Lad, West Tip.

Kim Brassey . . . starts the Flat with 60 horses.

Squash Rackets

Le Moignan challenge

By A Special Correspondent

MARTINE LE MOIGNAN, *from Guernsey,* heads a strong British challenge for *the women's* title in the French Open, which starts *today in the Stade Francais,* Paris.

Other Britons in the field include her Guernsey compatriot Lisa Opie, Sue Cogswell of Warwickshire, Angela Smith, of *Staffordshire, and* Lucy Soutter, of Gloucestershire.

BRIARS REGAINS TOP RANKING

Gawain Briars (Norfolk), the *former* British squash rackets champion, has regained the No. 1 spot in England's ranking list.

Briars has stepped up a place *after his successes in the Irish* and Greater London Open *championships and a* straight-games win over the man he replaces—Geoff Williams (Sussex).

TOP 10.—G. Briars (Norfolk) 1; G. Williams (Sussex) 2; P. Kenyon (Lancs) 3; H. Jahan (Surrey) 4; D. Lloyd (Salop) 5; D. Pearson (Lancs) 6; B. Beeson (Northumberland) 7; A. Naylor (Yorks) 8; M. Bodimeade (Berks) 9; J. Hickox (Surrey) 10.

Bowls

ALLCOCK REACHES LAST FOUR

By A Special Correspondent in Melbourne

TONY ALLCOCK, of England, assured himself of a place in the semi-finals of the Mazda International Bowls Tournament in Melbourne yesterday when he beat Peter Lawson, of Tasmania, 21-8.

Lawson had treatment for a ligament injury for some hours before the match and was unable to deliver his usual fast drives.

Ken Williams, of New South Wales, another to qualify for the semi-finals, beat Bob Middleton, of Victoria, 21-14.

Poole in form

Keith Poole, *of Queensland,* the defending champion, returned to *top form* with a 21-13 win over Willie Wood, of Scotland. He bowled accurately and consistently after overhauling the Scot, who led 5-2 at the sixth end.

It was a frustrating match for Wood, who could not consistently find line and length. He levelled 13-13 at the 16th end but fell *into errors again.*

CROYDON HAVE THE EDGE

By Our Bowls Correspondent

Croydon meet Folkestone in a Yetton Cup semi-final at Barking *today* with Peterborough opposing Harpenden in the other.

With Phil Soulsby, Pam Ward, Pam Davis and her twin sister Joy Adamson, Croydon appear to have slightly more strength in international talent but Folkestone's Vie Goodenough and Shirley Lawrence will undoubtedly disagree.

BOONABAROO OUT FOR SEASON

Peter Greenall's Boonabaroo, *one of the leading* English fancies for tomorrow's National *Hunt 'Chase* at Cheltenham, has thrown a splint and will not run again this season.

Spartan Missile, who seemed sure to be retired after winning a hunter-chase at Stratford-on-Avon last week, may now run at the Festival meeting. Nick Henderson, the 13-year-old trainer said yesterday that Spartan Missile has "thrived since that race and he is seriously considering running him in Thursday's Foxhunter's, which he won in 1979.

Cheltenham runners, riders, form guide and betting forecast

STEWARDS.—Lord Leverhulme, Mr T. Holland-Martin, *Mr C. Saunders, Mr R. Waley-Cohen.*

Advance Official Going: GOOD

JACKPOT MEETING

2.15 (Jackpot Prefix 1): **WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICES' HURDLE** Penalty Value £22,080 2m (30 declared)

2 111112 ARARUN (D) (BF) (Mrs A. Mee), P. Mullins, Ireland, 6 11-8 A. Mullins
3 0-12122 BONALMA (D) (BF) (G. Turkington), A. Moore, Ireland, 5 11-8 T. Taaffe
4 111112 CATS EYES (BL) (BF) (Mrs P. Fasey), M. Pipe, 5 11-8 P. Leach
5 1F0201 CHARCOAL WALLY (CD) (J. Mursell), R. Hodges, 6 11-8 G. McCourt
7 42321 DOWN FLIGHT (A. Allright), C. Holmes, 5 11-8 .... A. Webb
9 51022 GALA'S IMAGE (D) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin), Mrs M. Rimell, 5 11-8 .... R. Linley
10 111 HARRY HASTINGS (D) (R. Leask), J. S. Wilson, 6 11-8 C. Grant
11 2-113 HYPNOTIC (D) (BF) (Mrs J. Corbett), F. Walwyn, 5 11-8 K. Mooney
12 123024 IT'S TOUGH (P. Kennedy), S. Woodman, 6 11-8 ... R. Dunwoody
13 114120 JUST ALICK (CD) (S. Childs), M. H. Easterby, 6 11-8 A. Brown
14 01 KESSLIN (I. Jewell), N. Vigors, 5 11-8 .... J. White
16 121102 MUSIC BE MAGIC (D) (N. Mason), G. Richards, 6 11-8 N. Doughty
17 4147 RHOECUS (D) (P. Wetzel), Mrs M. Dickinson, 6 11-8 G. Bradley
18 0044 RUM (Mrs C. Clatworthy), J. Gifford, 5 11-8 .... R. Rowe
19 211U SAILOR'S DANCE (D) (M. Ritzenberg), F. Winter, 5 11-8 J. Francome
20 20 SHERALAM (BL) (M. Hollyer), Mrs M. Dickinson, 6 11-8 Mr R. J. Beggan
21 P12214 SIERRA BARON (D) (W. Whelan), J. Murphy, Ireland, 5 11-8 T. McGivern
22 0-121 SOME MACHINE (D) (W. O'Gorman), D. Nicholson, 6 11-8 P. Scudamore
24 013 STONEY CREEK (C. O'Connell), D. Hughes, Ireland, 5 11-8 K. Morgan
25 0-11213 TERRYASH (CD) (Miss J. Hughes), Mrs J. Pitman, 6 11-8 M. Pitman
26 111 THE BREENER (R. Bott Wigmore St. Ltd), O. Sherwood, 6 11-8 Mr S. Sherwood
27 232-200 THE LANGHOLM DYER (Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd), G. Richards, 6 11-8 .... S. Morshead
28 121 WELSH WARRIOR (H. J. Joel), A. Turnell, 5 11-8 Steve Knight
30 F03400 KITTY COME HOME (C. Offer), D. Tucker, 5 11-3 ... S. McNeill
31 221201 MAGANYOS (BL) (D) (D. Samuel), N. Henderson, 5 11-3 S. Smith Eccles
32 11211F OUR LOUISE (D) (T. Davidson), A. Scott, 6 11-3 P. A. Charlton
33 030-102 RHEFFANOSA (D) (Summerhill Stud Ltd), Miss A. Sinclair, 6 11-3 C. Brown
34 F30-220 SWOP SHOP (J. Sutcliffe), Miss Z. Green, 6 11-3 ... J. Goulding
35 401101 MENINGI (D) (Full Circle Thoroughbreds Ltd), N. Tinkler, 4 11-0 N. Tinkler
36 240113 MIRAMAC (D) (BF) (F. Lee), F. Lee, 4 11-0 .... S. Holland

S.P. FORECAST: 4 Ararun, 6 The Breener, 8 Bonalma, 10 Welsh Warrior, Hypnotic, Rhoecus, 12 Sierra Baron, 14 Sailor's Dance, 16 Terryash, Maganyos, Just Alick. 20 others.

1984: Browne's Gazette 6 11-8 Mr D. Browne 11-2 M. Dickinson. 18 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Ararun was beaten 1½l by Fredcoteri (level) at Leopardstown (2m) Feb. 20 with Sierra Baron (rec 5lb) another 3½l away 4th (good). Harry Hastings beat Hand Over (gave 2lb) by 8l at Ayr (2m) Dec. 29 (soft). The Breener beat Hunter River (rec 5lb) by ¾l at Newbury (2½m 100y) Dec. 29 (soft). Bonalma was beaten 2½l by Glorious Jane (level) at Gowran Park (2m 1f) Feb. 26 (good to soft). Welsh Warrior beat Tickite Boo (rec 7lb by 10l at Windsor (2m 30y) March 4 (soft). *Hypnotic was beaten 6l when 3rd* to Lucky Rascal (rec 17lb) at Sandown (2m) Nov. 30 (good to soft). Rhoecus beat Water Cannon (rec 15lb) by 15l at Haydock (2m) March 1 (good to soft). Terryash was beaten 16l when 3rd to Ten of Spades (gave 1lb) at Ascot (2m) Feb. 6 with Sailor's Dance (level) 2nd and every chance when falling last (good). Some Machine beat Superscienic (rec 8lb) by 5l at Leopardstown (2m) Jan. 12 (good).

ARARUN is preferred to The Breener.

TV (BBC-1): 2.15 & 2.50. (BBC-2): 3.30 & 4.5.

2.50 (Prefix 2): **ARKLE CHALLENGE TROPHY 'CHASE** £20,075 2m (16)

1 11213U BOREEN PRINCE (BF) (W. Lanehart, A. McNamara, Ireland, 8 11-8 .... N. Madden
2 11414 BRIGHT MORNING (M. Stoner), D. Grissell, 7 11-8 J. Akehurst
3 323411 BUCK HOUSE (Mrs 6. Purcell), M. Morris, Ireland, 7 11-8 T. Carmody
4 P-13313 DESTINY BAY (CD) (G. Johnson), N. Henderson, 7 11-8 S. Smith Eccles
6 114214 FREIGHT FORWARDER (CD) (Britannic Shipping Serv. Ltd), A. Pitt, 11 11-8 .... H. Davies
7 1F3F0U HANDY BILLY (Lady Earle), J. Webber, 6 11-8 .... A. Webber
9 011111 KARENOMORE (D) (Lt-Col R. Warden), M. H. Easterby, 7 11-8 A. Brown
10 0-04121 MR MOONRAKER (Mrs P. Blackburn), L. Kennard, 8 11-8 B. Powell
11 F4-1311 ROADSTER (C) (D) (C. Nash), C. Nash, 9 11-8 ... R. Dunwoody
12 2-2210F STRAY SHOT (G. Hubbard), J. Gifford, 7 11-8 .... R. Rowe
13 111321 ST WILLIAM (D) (W. Morrcombe), R. Hodges, 8 11-8 Peter Hobbs
14 0-21124 THE FOODBROKER (D) (BL) (Food Brokers Ltd), P. Haynes, 9 11-8 .... A. Webb
16 0-311F0 THE REJECT (D) (BF) (T. Ludlow), F. Winter, 6 11-8 J. Francome
17 13-1133 TOWNLEY STONE (D) (BF) (Mrs L. Townley), J. Webber, 6 11-8 G. McCourt
18 221U21 VERY PROMISING (Mrs J. Maunders), D. Nicholson, 7 11-8 P. Scudamore
19 40-04F0 EMLYN PRINCESS (T. Evans), J. D. Thomas, 5 10-9 A. Griffiths

S.P. FORECAST: 11-4 Karenomore, 7-2 Buck House, 11-2 Boreen Prince, Very Promising, 8 Townley Stone, 14 Mr Moonraker, 16 Roadster, St William, 20 others.

1984: Bobsline 8 11-8 F. Berry 5-4F F. Flood, Ireland. 8 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Buck House beat Dark Ivy (rec 6lb) by 6l at Leopardstown (2¼m) Feb. 20 with Boreen Prince (level) 2nd before unseating rider 4 out (good). Previously Boreen Prince was beaten 2½l by Antarctic Bay (level) at Fairyhouse (2½m) Feb. 9 (heavy). Very Promising beat Townley Stone (gave 4lb) by 10l at Newbury (2m 160y) March 1 with Bright Morning (rec. 4lb) a further 8l away 5th another 2½l away 4th and Emlyn Princess (rec 26lb) 3l at Market Rasen (2m) (good to soft). Karenomore beat Tarn (level) by 3l at Lingfield March 2 (good). Mr Moonraker beat John Present (rec. 4lb) by 2l at Newbury Feb. 26 (soft). St William beat Tudor Road (rec 12lb) by ½l at Newbury (2m 160y) March 1 (good to soft). Roadster beat Admiral's Cup (rec. 6lb) by 5l at Newbury (2m 160y) Feb. 8 (soft). Destiny Bay was beaten 5½l when 5th to Su's Bra (rec. 4lb) at Ascot (2m) Feb. 6 with The Foodbroker (rec 4lb) nk away 4th The Reject (rec. 4lb) hd away 5th and Stray Shot (rec 4lb) last of 7—Very Promising (rec 4lb) was 2nd beaten 2½l (good).

KARENOMORE may maintain his winning run. Buck House next best.

3.30 (Prefix 3): **WATERFORD CRYSTAL CHAMPION HURDLE CHALLENGE TROPHY** £38,030 2m (14)

1 21200-0 AMARACH (CD) (M. Pacificol, Mrs S. Oliver, 7 12-0 J. Duggan
5 1-21111 BROWNE'S GAZETTE (CD) (J. Poynton), Mrs M. Dickinson, 7 12-0 .... D. Browne
6 210-04 CENTROLINE (A. Bingley Ltd), C. Bell, 7 12-0 ...... T. Carmody
7 0-33201 DESERT ORCHID (D) (R. Burridge), D. Elsworth, 6 12-0 C. Brown
8 03-3241 FREDCOTERI (D) (T. Murphy), A. Moore, Ireland, 9 12-0 T. Taaffe
9 1/121-12 GAYE BRIEF (CD) (BF) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin), Mrs M. Rimell, 8 12-0 .... R. Linley
10 042-PB0 MILLER HILL (J. Harvey), D. Hughes, Ireland, 9 12-0 K. Morgan
11 2101-14 NORTHERN TRIAL (D) (C. Shack), P. Kelleway, 5 12-0 R. Dunwoody
12 111102 PASSAGE CREEPER (D) (Mrs S. Hussey), P. Mullins, Ireland, 8 12-0 .... A. Mullins
13 01-1101 RA NOVA (D) (D. Travers-Clark), Mrs N. Kennedy, 6 12-0 M. Perrett
14 00-2130 ROBIN WONDER (CD) (A. Hunt), D. Elsworth, 7 12-0 J. O'Neill
15 21-3151 SEE YOU THEN (D) (Stype Wood Stud Ltd), N. Henderson, 5 12-0 .... J. Francome
16 00-1110 STATESMANSHIP (CD) (D. Horswell), R. Hannon, 5 12-0 P. Scudamore
17 040133 STANS PRIDE (C) (D) (Mrs M. Morgan), G. Price, 8 11-9 S. Morshead

S.P. FORECAST: 4-5 Browne's Gazette, 7-2 Gaye Brief, 12 Fredcoteri, 16 Ra Nova, See You Then, 25 Desert Orchid, Passage Creeper, 40 Amarach, Robin Wonder, 66 others.

1984: Dawn Run 6 11-9 J. O'Neill 4-5F P. Mullins, Ireland. 14 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Browne's Gazette beat Afton Galaxd (rec 17lb) by 30l at Kelso (2m) Feb. 26 (soft). Desert Orchid beat Mr Moonraker (rec 9lb) by 10l at Sandown (2m) Feb. 2 (soft). Ra Nova beat Janus (rec 5lb) by 20l at Windsor (2m 30y) Jan. 1 (good to soft). Fredcoteri beat Ararun (level) by 1½l at Leopardstown (2m) Feb. 20 (good). Passage Creeper was beaten 8l by Ravaro (rec. 31lb) at Fairyhouse (2½m) Feb. 9 (heavy). See You Then beat Little Bay (rec. 10lb) by sh at Doncaster (2½m) Feb. 25 (firm). Gaye Brief was beaten 8l by Browne's Gazette (rec 6lb) over today's course and dist Dec. 8 with Stans Pride (rec 13lb) 35½l away last of 5 (good to soft). Robin Wonder was not in first 9 to Prideaux Boy (rec 14lb) at Sandown (2m) Dec. 1 with Centroline (rec 16lb) also in rear (good to soft).

BROWNE'S GAZETTE should confirm form with Gaye Brief.

4.5 (Prefix 4): **WATERFORD CRYSTAL STAYERS' HURDLE** £21,320 3m 1f (22)

2 2-22033 ANOTHER SHOT (M. White), P. McCreery, Ireland, 7 11-10 Mr T. Walsh
3 111104-1 AONOCH (C) (M. Pacificol, Mrs S. Oliver, 6 11-10 J. Duggan
4 0-41020 BAJAN SUNSHINE (P. Green), M. Tate, 6 11-10 S. Smith Eccles
5 U22P41 BALLY-GO (BL) (C. Bell), M. W. Easterby, 8 11-10 ... F. Tuck
7 410-210 BOLANDS CROSS (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin), N. Gaselee, 6 11-10 R. Linley
8 010220 CAMINO CRYSTAL (BL) (F. Doherty), S. Christian, 9 11-10 K. Mooney
9 0-101U CHURCH WARDEN (CD) (J. Moreton), D. Murray-Smith, 6 11-10 G. Bradley
10 0-F8002 CLINKER (A. King), J. Bosley, 5 11-10 .... Mr M. Bosley
11 U203-13 CRIMSON EMBERS (BL) (Mrs E. Smart), F. Walwyn, 10 11-10 .... S. Shilston
13 00-3120 FIGHTER PILOT (BF) (F. Gray), M. Pipe, 5 11-10 P. Leach
14 34322-3 GOLDSPUN (Ld Vestey), D. Nicholson, 7 11-10 P. Scudamore
15 010-000 HERE'S WHY (BL) (P. Hopkins), J. Gifford, 9 11-10 ... R. Rowe
17 233100 LITTLE LONDON (T. Morton), T. Morton, 6 11-10 R. Dunwoody
18 000-000 MALFORD LAD (BL) (C) (R. Hawker), R. Hawker, 7 11-10 M. Richards
19 503-F00 MOSSMORRAN (C) (D. Armstrong), A. Scott, 8 11-10 P. A. Charlton
22 211233 PLAY BOY (Duke of Albuquerque), F. Winter, 6 11-10 J. Francome
23 0-15303 VIVAQUE (Mrs M. Harman), D. Elsworth, 6 11-10 ... J. O'Neill
24 130032 WE'LL SEE (R. Bergin), F. O'Brien, Ireland, 9 11-10 A. J. O'Brien
25 030-130 WONDER WOOD (D. Robinson), R. Holder, 6 11-10 P. Richards
26 10F1F0 BUCKBE (C) (R. Tory), D. Elsworth, 6 11-5 .... C. Brown
27 041000 PHENIC (D. Joyce), J. Crowley, Ireland, 9 11-5 ... P. Leech
28 12-2011 ROSE RAVINE (C) (Mrs S. Smart), F. Walwyn, 6 11-5 R. Pusey

S.P. FORECAST: 3 Aonoch, 11-2 Rose Ravine, 6 Bajan Sunshine, 8 Buckbe, 10 Crimson Embers, 12 Play Boy, Vivaque, 14 Church Warden, Goldspun, 20 Bally-Go, Another Shot, 25 others.

1984: Gaye Chance 9 11-10 S. Morshead 5-1 Mrs M. Rimell. 14 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Aonoch beat Gembridge Jupiter (rec 15lb) by 2½l at Haydock (2½m) March 1 (good to soft). Rose Ravine beat Combs Ditch (level) by 11 at Ascot (3m) Feb. 6 with Play Boy (level) ½l away 3rd and Wonder Wood (level) 7th (good). Previously Rose Ravine beat Buckbe (level) by 11 over today's course (2½m) Jan. 26 (soft). Another Shot was beaten 1¾l when 3rd to Fredcoteri (level) at Leopardstown (2m) Feb. 20 with Bajan Sunshine (level) another 3½l away 6th (good). Crimson Embers was beaten 7, nk when 3rd to Kristenson (level) at Ascot (3m) Dec. 15 with Vivaque (level) 3l away 4th (good to soft). We'll See was beaten 2½l by Rainbow Warrior (level) at Thurles (2½m 'ch) Feb. 21 (good). Previously We'll See was beaten 11l when 3rd to Ravaro (rec 1lb) at Fairyhouse (2½m) Feb. 9 (heavy).

ROSE RAVINE may complete hat-trick. Another Shot next best.

4.40 (Prefix 5): **KIM MUIR MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP 'CHASE** (Amateur Riders) £8,326 3m (20)

2 402011 SESKIN BRIDGE (D) (The President of Ireland), P. McCreery, Ireland, 7 11-9 .... T. Walsh
4 031003 DUDIE (D) (M. Moore), P. Mullins, Ireland, 7 11-0 W. Mullins
5 404001 HERR CAPITAN (D) (A. Whetham), J. Old, 9 11-0 (6lb ex) R. Whetham
8 0/4-PPOF SHADY DEAL (D) (G. Hubbard), J. Gifford, 10 10-11 T. Grantham (7)
9 01045-0 BORJOS (D) (J. Brockbank), J. Brockbank, 12 10-11 G. Harker (7)
10 1-22F01 BRUNTON PARK (D) (Mrs J. Bendall), Mrs M. Dickinson, 7 10-10 (6lb ex) .... R. Beggan
11 2F-2F11 CHARTER PARTY (D) (Mrs J. Mould), D. Nicholson, 7 10-8 T. Thomson Jones
12 C034P4 KNOCK HILL (D) (P. Thompson), J. Webber, 9 10-8 M. Bosley (7)
13 10-4201 DROPS O'BRANDY (D) (Mrs C. Fairbairn), J. Edwards, 10 10-7 (6lb ex) .... A. J. Wilson
14 P1-141P GLYDE COURT (C) (C. Cronin), F. Winter, 8 10-5 S. Sherwood
15 10F10-F MISTER DONUT (D) (E. Swaffield), R. Hodges, 7 10-5 D. Chesney
16 031042 MOUNT OLIVER (D. Smith), M. Scudamore, 7 10-5 M. Price (7)
17 031022 BASHFUL LAD (D) (Mrs F. Parkes), M. Oliver, 10 10-5 M. Richards (7)
18 F0042-0 FAULOON (R. Kleckheffer), F. Walwyn, 10 10-5 M. Bradstock (7)
19 30/1FPP- COMBE HILL (J. Henderson), N. Henderson, 8 10-5 D. Murphy (7)
22 3/342 LAURENCE RAMBLER (BL) (S. Tindall), S. Mellor, 11 10-5 —
23 20EPP1- FOXBURY (exors of the late Mr M. Richards), Mrs C. Richards, 11 10-5 .... Des Williams (7)
24 3P-0253 ASSURED (C) (Lady Oakes), C. James, 12 10-5 Miss S. Lawrence (7)
25 312-PPP UNDER-RATED (BL) (E. M. English & Son), R. Holder, 10-5 Mr P. McEwan (7)
26 B-PF113 THREE CHANCES (D) (M. Perry), R. Champion, 6 10-5 M. Low (4)

Laurence Rambler non-runner states trainer.

S.P. FORECAST: 7-2 Charter Party, 9-2 Brunton Park, 7 Seskin Bridge, 8 Drops O'Brandy, 10 Glyde Court, Mount Oliver, 14 Assured, Mister Donut, 20 Bashful Lad, Three Chances, Herr Capitan, 25 others.

1984: Broomy Bank 9 11-4 Mr A. J. Wilson 16-1 J. Edwards. 18 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Seskin Bridge beat Future Prosperity (rec 22lb) by sh at Leopardstown (3m) Feb. 20 (good). Herr Capitan beat Bashful Lad (rec 6lb) by 1½l at Worcester (3m) Feb. 27 (good to soft). Charter Party beat Greenbank Park (rec 4lb) by 3l at Newbury (3m) Feb. 8 with Knock Hill (gave 7lb) 30l away 4th (soft). Brunton Park beat Book of Kells (rec 7lb) by 10l at Market Rasen (3m) March 2 (soft). Drops O'Brandy beat Blazing Wind (rec. 7lb) by 3l at Ludlow (3m) Feb. 28 (good to soft). Dudie was beaten 11l when 3rd to Bobsline (gave 29lb) at Leopardstown (2¼m) Feb. 27 (yielding). Mount Oliver was beaten 1½l by Castle Warden (rec 20lb) at Wincanton (3m 1f) Jan. 25 (good to soft).

SESKIN BRIDGE has sound claims. Charter Party next best.

5.15 (Prefix 6): **CHELTENHAM GRAND ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP 'CHASE** £10,781 2m (19)

2 F-14232 KATHIES LAD (CD) (J. Clayton), A. Jarvis, 9 11-10 S. Smith Eccles
3 2-33320 KILBRITTAIN CASTLE (D) (W. Whitbread), F. Walwyn, 9 11-5 K. Mooney
5 0P-4320 RAGAFAN (D) (F. Starr), J. Jenkins, 8 11-2 ...... J. Francome
6 031100 RESTLESS SHOT (CD) (R. Richmond-Watson), J. Webber, 10 11-2 .... G. McCourt
8 4-24111 BLACKFEET (D) (A. MacFadin), J. S. Wilson, 6 10-8 (5lb ex) S. Charlton
9 132200 FOGGY BUOY (Lord Ronaldshay), P. Calver, 11 10-7 J. O'Neill
10 B01225 GOLDEN FRIEND (D) (D. Meade), Mrs M. Rimell, 7 10-7 S. Morshead
11 0P-1310 JO COLOMBO (D) (B. O'Brien), Mrs W. Sykes, 10 10-6 N. Doughty
12 0-31310 RIVER RHEIN (D) (C. Bowen-Colthurst), J. Webber, 8 10-6 ... A. Webber
13 311/2211 LEFRAK CITY (D) (Mrs D. Twiné), T. Forster, 8 10-5 H. Davies
14 0033U3 TOIRDEALBHACH (H. Harper-Crewe) P. O'Connor, 11 10-5 P. Berry
15 080040 WALNUT WONDER (CD) (R. Hickman), R. Hickman, 10 10-1 J. Bryan
16 812141 KEVINSFORT (D) (Mrs R. Heggie), J. Fitzgerald, 7 10-0 (5lb ex) M. Dwyer
17 201115 KING'S JUG (CD) (BF) (David Timothy Ltd), Mrs M. Rimell, 7 10-0 .... G. Charles-Jones (4)
18 321-0F0 THE COUNTY STONE (Mrs A. Taylor), J. Thorne, 8 10-0 P. Dever
20 14-0230 MIDNIGHT SONG (D) (Mrs D. Price), T. Forster, 10 10-0 R. Dunwoody
21 1-0F430 LULAV (D) (C. Gavenia), D. Nicholson, 7 10-0 P. Scudamore
23 24P1U4 DENNIS AUBURN (D) (Anne, Duchess of Westminster), R. Francis, 8 10-0 .... R. Crank
24 04F1P NUDGE NUDGE (D) (BF) (A. Birchall), S. Mellor, 5 10-0 M. Perrett

S.P. FORECAST: 11-2 Lefrak City, Blackfeet, 8 River Rhein, Ragafan, 10 Golden Friend, 12 Kevinsfort, Toirdealbhach, Jo Colombo, 14 Kilbrittain Castle & Kathies Lad, 16 King's Jug, 20 others.

1984: Mossy Moore 8 10-0 J. O'Neill 11-2 B. Chinn. 18 ran.

FORM GUIDE.—Blackfeet beat *Golden Fancy* (rec 3lb) by 7l at Doncaster (2m 150y) Feb. 25 (firm). Lefrak City beat Toirdealbhach (gave 5lb) by ¾l at Sandown (2m 18y) Feb. 1 with River Rhein (gave 12lb) 53l away 6th (soft). Kathies Lad was beaten ½l by Western Sunset (level) at Newbury (2½m) March 2 (soft). Ragafan was beaten 24¾l when 5th to Left Bank (level) at *Ascot (2m) Dec. 15—River Rhein* (rec 10lb) 3rd beaten 12½l (good to soft). Kevinsfort beat Gemelek (level) by 7l at Haydock (2m) March 1 with King's Jug (gave 2lb) 2½l away 3rd (good to soft). Golden Friend was beaten 32½l when 3rd to Forgive N'Forget (gave 10lb) at Haydock (2½m) March 2 (good to soft). Jo Colombo was 8th of 9 to Classified (level) at Worcester (2½m) Feb. 27 (good to soft).

TOIRDEALBHACH may reverse Feb. 1 placings with Lefrak City.

NORTHERN CORRESPONDENT

CHELTENHAM: 2.15 Rhoecus; 2.50 Karenomore; 3.30 Browne's Gazette; 4.5 Aonoch (nap); 5.15 Kevinsfort.

SEDGEFIELD.—2.0 Langford Brook; 2.35 Tabriz Gold; 3.10 Rejuvenator; 3.45 Crickstown; 4.20 Golden Ty; 4.55 Wide Missouri.

HOTSPUR'S "TWELVE"

Townley Stone (2.50), Browne's Gazette (3.30), Bolands Cross (4.5), Wonder Wood (4.5) and Brunton Park (4.40) are horses listed in Hotspur's "Twelve to Follow" engaged at Cheltenham today.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS

Seagram Grand National H'cap 'Ch, Liverpool: Matty Buskins, Doubleaugain.

STATE OF GOING

Advance official going for tomorrow's meetings: Cheltenham: "good"; Newton Abbot: "soft."

SEDGEFIELD CARD AND JOCKEYS

SELECTIONS

HOTSPUR	FORM
2. 0—Langford Brook	2. 0—Linatea
2.35—Tabriz Gold	2.35—Tabriz Gold
3.10—Rejuvenator	3.10—Cornering
3.45—Border Knight	3.45—*Crickstown*
4.20—Golden Ty	4.20—Golden Ty
4.55—Mount Nugent	4.55—Wide Missouri

Advance Official Going: GOOD TO FIRM

2.0: YARM SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE Penalty Value £509 2m (17 declared)

2 00-0 Houghton Weaver (CD), E. Alston, 6 11-7 K. Doolan (4)
3 0F1 Linatea (CD), P. Curtis, 10 11-7 (5lb ex) D. Wilkinson
5 P0-P Seamof (BL) (CD), P. Curtis, 6 11-4 R. Balfour (7)
6 P/ Kasmoun, J. Wade, 10 11-1 .... Mr J. Wade
8 400 Satin Grange (D), N. Waggott, 7 10-12 Miss T. Waggott (7)
9 000 Edwards Corner, T. Barnes, 7 10-11 M. Barnes
11 0PP Minnie The Moocher, M. Avison, 7 10-9 G. W. Gray
12 20-0 Linpac Gold (BL), S. Bridge, 6 10-9 W. Morris
13 00/0 Andy Lou (D), R. Jeffrey, 7 10-8 J. Brough (7)
14 302 Langford Brook (BL), M. Dickinson, 6 10-8 *J. A. Harris*
17 310 Warren Gorse (D), S. Avery, 11 10-6 C. McIlfatrick (4)
19 000 Secret Minstrel, J. Parkes, 8 10-4 Lynn Whiffen (7)
21 104 Carlingford Bay (Ch. R. Gray), 6 10-3 P. A. Farrell (7)
22 P-00 Noble Legend, J. Doyle, 7 10-2 ... J. C. Doyle
25 000 Pelletaft (BL), N. Waggott, 5 10-2 Mr N. Waggott (7)
26 000 Street Girl, J. M. Bradley, 10 10-2 ... G. Davies
27 000 Little Tyrant (BL) (D), B. Richmond, 8 10-2 S. Keightley

S.P. FORECAST: 3 Carlingford Bay, 9-2 Langford Brook, 5 Linatea, 7 Satin Grange, Warren Gorse, 10 Linpac Gold, 12 Houghton Weaver, 16 Secret Minstrel, 20 others.

2.35: DARLINGTON NOVICES' HURDLE (Div. I) £548 2½m (15)

1 301 Tabriz Gold (D), J. Johnson, 6 12-3 J. Hansen (4)
3 000 Busk Fuzz, W. A. Stephenson, 5 11-7 M. Maguire (4)
4 003/ Derek's Bay, W. Redfern, 8 11-7 .... M. Pepper
6 00 Escapist, N. Waggott, 6 11-7 Mr N. Waggott (7)
7 004 Hannahman (BL), S. Bridge, 8 11-7 W. Morris
10 000 Swirl Howe, W. A. Stephenson, 5 11-7 Mr P. J. Dun
11 P00 Wensleydale, J. Parkes, 7 11-7 Lynn Whiffen (7)
12 F02 Bridgits Girl, P. Liddle, 7 11-2 ... G. W. Gray
14 00 Silken Tara, M. Lambert, 5 11-2 A. Charlton (7)
16 00 Tynedale, D. Lamb, 5 11-2 .... R. Lamb
19 00 Mark's Choice, V. Thompson, 4 10-12 Mr M. Thompson (7)
20 0 Rancher, C. Thornton, 4 10-12 ... D. Wilkinson
21 F00 Savoir Vivre, M. W. Easterby, 4 10-12 A. Dickman
22 P00 Tocodeau, Miss C. Caroe, 4 10-12 C. Hawkins
23 00P Yallakari, Miss J. Eaton, 4 10-12 ...... P. Barry

S.P. FORECAST: 7-4 Tabriz Gold, 5-2 Savoir Vivre, 9-2 Bridgits Girl, 8 Swirl Howe, 10 Busk Fuzz, 16 *Hannahman, Silken Tara,* 20 others.

3.10: STEETLEY BRICK HANDICAP 'CHASE £1,481 2½m (10)

1 130 Spring Chancellor (C) (D), W. A. Stephenson, 10 12-7 ... R. Lamb
4 241 Rejuvenator (CD), G. Richards, 9 10-12 (10lb ex) D. Coakley (4)
5 122 Cornering, M. H. Easterby, 9 10-9 ... D. Dutton
8 0P0 Kamon Sunshine (BL) (CD), D. Yeoman, 8 10-3 C. Hawkins
9 304 Tiernese, T. Bill, 7 10-0 .... Mr P. J. Dun
10 4PP Miss Wood (CD), R. Robinson, 10 10-0 G. W. Gray
11 41F River Warrior (D), J. M. Bradley, 7 10-0 G. Davies
13 013 *Owen Luck* (C), R. Swiers, 11 10-0 Miss A. Beaumont (7)
14 043 Carouser, J. C. Doyle, 8 10-0 ... I. Hansen (4)
16 000 Dom Mancini, Lady Renwick, 10 10-0 Mr P. Dennis (7)

S.P. FORECAST: 11-4 Cornering, 3 Rejuvenator, 9-2 Spring Chancellor, 8 Tiernese, 10 River Warrior, Kamon Sunshine, 16 Owen Luck, Carouser, 20 others.

3.45: JOHN WADE NOVICES' 'CHASE £862 2m (16)

3 0-00 Bobbing Star, B. McMahon, 9 11-0 ...... T. Wall
4 432 Border Knight, J. Haldane, 10 11-0 ... R. Lamb
7 3P0 Crickstown, G. Richards, 8 11-0 D. Coakley (4)
8 440 Drummoney, L. Griffiths, 11 11-0 ... S. Keightley
9 000 Go On Joe, J. Richardson, 11 11-0 D. Wilkinson
10 23/0 Great Tarquin, A. Corner, 8 11-0 M. Maguire (4)
11 4P0 *Jupiter Prince, W. A. Stephenson,* 6 11-0 Mr P. J. Dun
12 PP Little Sachem, B. Richmond, 6 11-0 S. Johnson
13 0PP Mandy's Seal, J. Harris, 7 11-0 ... J. A. Harris
15 0/0-0 Nancys Boy, R. Jeffrey, 6 11-0 ... J. Hansen (4)
18 002 Shirlstar Boyaboy, J. Wade, 9 11-0 Mr J. Wade
19 000 Starjestic, R. Robinson, 7 11-0 ... G. W. Gray
20 P/ Cool Kit, C. Douglas, 9 10-9 .... —
21 F00 Mainsforth Queen, W. A. Stephenson, 8 10-9 K. Jones
22 F04 Mendelita (BL), F. Courage, 9 10-9 C. Fairhurst
23 0 Silent O'Moyle, B. McMahon, 10 10-9 ...... —

S.P. FORECAST: 9-4 Border Knight, 11-4 Shirlstar Boyaboy, 9-2 Crickstown, 6 Go On Joe, 8 Bobbing Star, 10 Great Tarquin, 14 others.

4.20: SOUTH DURHAM OPEN HUNT CHALLENGE CUP HUNTERS' 'CHASE (Amateur Riders) £687 3m 600y (11)

2 212 Golden Ty (BF), V. Hall, 7 12-8 A. Orkney (7)
4 42-P Ingham, Mrs J. Jordan, 13 12-8 M. Sowersby (7)
5 04-3 Melodic Lad, W. Lamarque, 10 12-8 T. D. Smith (7)
6 F04- Mustapha, J. Hellens, 7 12-8 ...... T. Reed (4)
8 13P- Whiggie Geo, Miss J. Sanderson, 13 12-8 N. Tutty (7)
9 0P/0 Pennine Derek, R. W. Johnson, 11 12-5 F. Johnson (7)
10 PP-P Galleum, Mrs T. Donaldson, 8 12-0 ... J. Walton
11 004- His Reverence, B. Powell, 9 12-0 .... —
12 010- Its A Capper, J. Turner, 7 12-0 ... S. Swiers (7)
14 001/ Lichfield, A. Smith, 8 12-0 .... N. Smith (7)
16 U/ Three Up, J. Mackley, 13 12-0 Miss S. Mackley (7)

S.P. FORECAST: 4-6 Golden Ty, 5-2 Whiggie Geo, 8 Mustapha, 12 Melodic Lad, 16 Lichfield, 20 others.

4.55: DARLINGTON NOVICES' HURDLE (Div. II) £548 2½m (13)

1 001 Wide Missouri, R. Champion, 5 12-3 M. Hill (7)
3 0/40 Doctor Woolley (BF), R. Gray, 8 11-7 D. Dutton
4 F0 Flower Brass, W. A. Stephenson, 6 11-7 K. Jones
5 000 Gowan House, W. A. Stephenson, 6 11-7 R. Lamb
7 FP Solder Kelly, G. Richards, 7 11-7 D. Coakley (4)
8 000- Claudes Star, Mrs G. Reveley, 6 11-2 Mr T. Reed (4)
9 0PP *Crests Crossett, E. Caine,* 7 11-2 .... —
10 024 Falcner Lady, R. Robinson, 6 11-2 A. Stringer
12 0 Mount Nugent, Mrs M. Dickinson, 5 11-2 P. A. Farrell (7)
14 0U0 Metcalfe Fleet, M. W. Easterby, 4 10-12 A. Dickman
15 03 Sharp Sons, T. Fairhurst, 4 10-12 C. Fairhurst
16 400 Special Settlement, R. Allan, 4 10-12 S. Keightley
17 020 Cobby Castle, J. H. Johnson, 4 10-7 J. Hansen (4)

S.P. FORECAST: 9-4 Mount Nugent, 100-30 Falcner Lady, 4 Wide Missouri, 6 Special Settlement, 10 Sharp Sons, Spider Kelly, 12 Cobby Castle, 14 others.

Yesterday's results

AYR

Going: GOOD

2.0: SLAPHOUSE NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I) £788 2m

MARLION b g Julio Mariner—Rose Mullion (Mrs M. Grant), 4 10-4 K. Teelan ... 5-6F 1
STAR BURST, b g Buster—Pearl Star (W. Francis), 8 10-9 C. Cowley ... 9-4 2
WISE CRACKER, b c Hittite Glory—Exquisite (Meikle & Cox Building Contractors Ltd.), 4 10-8 N. Doughty ... 9-2 3

Also: 12 Brilliant Fellow (4th), 50 Forlorn Molly (5th), Milton Lockhart (6th), Hasty Buck, Scottish Simbir, Stellas Boy, Grey Lil. 10 ran. 8l, 15l, 5l, 20l, 6l. (Miss S. Hall, Middleham.) Tote: Win, £1·90; places £1·00, £2·20, £1·20. Dual F'cast, £1·90. SPSF: £3·24.

2.30: ROSEMOUNT H'CAP HDLE £1,196 2½m

THE MAN HIMSELF, ch g Scallywag—Must Improve (E. Briggs), 5 11-11. N. Doughty ... 4-5F 1
BURGUNDY, b h Bustino—Land Of Fire (C. Alexander), 6 10-13 Mr A. Dudgeon ... 9-1 2
RABY, br m Pongee—Sherry (W. McFarlane), 6 9-10 J. Hansen ... 8-1 3

Also: 8 Batterea, Slave King (4th), Laugh-A-Minute (5th). 6 ran. 30l, 15l, 3l, 2l, 5l. (G. Richards, Greystoke.) Tote: Win, £1·80; places, £1·10, £3·20; Dual F'cast, £4·30. SPSF: £7·11. NR: Alberoid.

3.0: ARTHUR CHALLENGE CUP H'CAP 'CH £1,809 2½m

ANOTHER CITY ch g Scallywag—Must Improve (E. Briggs) 6 11-2 N. Doughty ... 9-2 1
THE DIVIDER b g Leander—Davett (J. Aitken) 7 11-4 T. G. Dun ... 6-4F 2
HAPPY VOYAGE b g Twilight Alley—Traverser (S. Hardey) 10 11-7 M. Barnes ... 20-1 3

Also: 4 Tele-Jector (f). 6 Trollena, 70 Shamrock Bridge (u.r.), 33 Misty Rascal (p.u.). 7 ran. 30l, 3l, 1½l, (G. Richards, Greystoke). Tote: Win, £4·00; places, £1·80, £1·60; Dual F'cast: £34·00. SPSF: £1075. NR: Red Charles.

3.30: SLAPHOUSE NOVICE HURDLE (Div II) £792 2m

CHIPPED METAL b g Crash Course—Car Shine (J. Barlow) 6 11-1 R. Crank ... 9-4 1
PIKE'S PEAK br c High Top—Sometimes Lucky (Hippodrome Racing) 4 10-8 D. Dutton ... 1-2F 2
SHERMAN GUTREY b or br g Ardoon—Wish You Wow (W. Peacock) 4 10-8 N. Doughty ... 14-1 3

Also: 15-2 Broker (5th), 20 Clare Thorpe (4th), 33 Copy Writer (6th), 200 This Ones For You, Bright Sensation, Coldtrace, Fusion. 10 ran. 4l, 15l, 6l, 12l. (R. B. Francis, Malpas.) Tote: Win, £4·60; places, £1·60, £1·00, £2·20. Dual F'cast: £2·10. SPSF: £6·66.

4.0: HOLLYBUSH NOV 'CHASE £1,282 3m 110y

MISS MAYO, b m Rubor—Mayo Lassie (Mrs R. Carr) 8 10-10 M. Barnes ... 14-1 1
CHARLES DUKE, b g Brave Invader—Outdoor Girl (J. Morrison) 6 11-5 D. Coakley ... 4-1 2
DAY OF WISHES, b g Three Wishes—Ding Dong Day (W. A. Stephenson) 9 11-5 Mr P. J. Dun ... 10-1 3

Also: 7-4F Amber Wine (4th), 10 Ice Bill, 7 Hill Green (p.u.), 14 Don Barnes (f), 66 Jonathan's Choice (p.u.). 8 ran. 5l, 10l, 25l, 15l. (C. Parker, Lockerbie). Tote: Win, £12·40; places, £1·90, £2·70, £1·10. Dual F'cast: £35·40. SPSF: £64·19.

4.30: AYRSHIRE HUNTERS' CHALLENGE CUP NOV 'CH £828 3m 110y

BROAD VIEW, ch g Leander—Salvia (Mrs E. Borthwick) 10 11-5 Mr R. Robinson ... 7-4F 1
COULTERS CANDY, ch g Near-cottage Pearl — Flashbun (D. McGarva) 6 11-5 Mr S. Cunningham ... 3-1 2
PANEGYRIST, b g Sweet Story — Pandorama (C. Alexander) 10 11-10 Mr P. Craggs ... 7-2 3

Also: 5 Louis Roederer (f). 4 ran. 6l, dist. (Mrs E. Borthwick, Lockerbie). Tote: Win, £2·90; Dual F'cast, £3·10. SPSF: £5·30.

5.0: GRUNWICK STKS (NH Flat race) £777 2m

BIG WHITE CHIEF gr g Warpath—Compulsion (K. Lockwood) 4 10-7 P. A. Farrell ... 20-1 1
JACK OF CLUBS b g Kinglet—Laughing Stock (B. McLean) 5 11-4 Mr T. Reed ... 25-1 2
YOU KNOW b g Mandrake Major—Chance Belle (R. Jarvis) 4 11-0 Mr C. Platts ... evens F 3

Also: 4 Cleremount, 10 Platinum Stood (4th), 11 Sea Cracker, 16 Welbury Lodge, Tregarrick, 20 Captain Corinth (5th), Dizzy Dora (6th), 25 Harley, Kembleton Boy, Silent City, Sunny One Suite, Spring Onion. 15 ran. 10l, nk, hd, 12l, 3l, cl. (F. Smith, Bagsley). Tote: Win, £38·00; places, £8·90, £7·00, £1·10. Dual F'cast, £369·00. SPSF: £400.51.

PLACEPOT: £5·90.

SOUTHWELL

Going: SOFT.

2.15 (2m hdle): Brunevel (B. Smith Eccles, 9-4) 1; Catchmeup (Peter Hobbs, 7-2) 2; Rossman (P. Scudamore, 20-1) 3. Also: 15-2F Deep Echo (4th), 11-2 Scottish Bavard (4th), 33 Cheltenham Fun (f), Melway Boy (5th), 50 Chateau Lad, Delightful, Orchestral, Abbess (b.d.), Comedy Castle, Lady Week n, The Houson (6th), Tipperary Sam, Trullo. 16 ran. ¾l, 4l, 1½l, 20l, 20l. (A. P. Jarvis, Royston). Tote: Win, £3·30; places, £1·50, £1·40, £9·30. Dual F'cast, £32·90. SPSF: £10·16.

2.45 (2m hdle): Aesthetician (R. Campbell, 10-1) 1; Super Dip (M. Hold, 4-1) 2; Picket Line (B. J. O'Neill, 5-1) 3. Also: 6 Mummy's Fancy (p.u.), 13-2 Piers Sough, Western Laser, 8 What A Princess, 10 Blakesware Gift (5th), 14 Village Poacher, 16 Prince Lasito (4th), Pamusilan, Highview, With A Lot, My Dizzy (6th). 14 ran. 2l, 3l, 15l, 1½l. (J. Campbell, Hoolewood). Tote: Win, £6·90; places, £1·90, £2·30, £1·80; Dual F'cast, £22·40. SPSF: £54·58.

3.15 (2m 74y 'ch): Flying Mistress (G. McCourt, 8-1) 1; Victor Bob (W. Knox, 2-1) 2; Papermaster (R. Strange, 10-1) 3. Also 7-2F Kamik (u.r.), 4 Jondale (F), 11-2, Nero Wolf (p.u.), 6 Postdyne (4th), 8 Jinja Thyme (5th), 20 Fading Dawn (6), Certain Run (f), Snap'n Seal (f), Little Bushichinto (p.u.), Roy's House (f). 15 ran. 3l, 10l, ¾l, 7l. (J. Webber, Banbury). Tote: Win, £5·80; places, £1·10, £4·30, £5·60. Dual F'cast, £55·40. SPSF: £143·23. TRICAST: £1,436·56.

3.45 (2½m hdle): Model Pupil (J. Suthern, 5-1) 1; Polish (A. Webb, 7-1) 2; Paulatim (J. White, 8-1) 3. Incense (A. Webber, 20-1) 4. Also: 4F Hern Heaven, 5 Emperor, 12 Regency Tom (p.u.), 14 Arapaho Prince (5th), 16 Mumtaz, Steel Venture, 20 Square-Rigged (p.u.), Long Drums, Truth (p.u.), Double Discount, The Owls, Fine Tale, Graphics Solar, Feels Right (6th). 18 ran. 1½l, hd, nk, 1½l, 1l. (O. O'Neill, Cheltenham). Tote: Win, £5·30; places, £2·90, £2·20, £1·50, £3·20. Dual F'cast, £34·40. SPSF: £58·25. Tricast: £1,631·56.

4.15 (3m 110y 'ch): Alabama Star (R. Morris, 50-1) 1; Court Papers (Mrs K. Dickin, 11-8F) 2; The Captain Jim (W. Wales, 16-1) 3. Also: 3 Scarlet Loom (f), 5 Royal Dust (p.u.), 10 Slobbers Joy (6th), 14 Lady Buttons, 16 Metela, Prominent Artist (5th), 25 Lone Soldier (4th), 33 Herodian (p.u.), 50 Dark Galaxy Affair (b.d.), Good Action (b.d.), Martletown (p.u.), Master Wink (p.u.), Tabalo (f), Tregoda (f). 17 ran. 4l, 8l, 3l, 10l, 3l. (F. Jackson, Coniston). Tote: Win, £148·00; places, £17·50, £1·70, £5·40; Dual F'cast, £595·50. SPSF: £129·63.

4.45 (3m 110y 'ch): Keadby (G. Charles-Jones, 16-1) 1; Goldenmoon (Miss M. Armytage, 14-1) 2; Emmanuel (P. Warner, 2-1) 3; Ballyprooky (Des Williams, 20-1) 4. Also: 9-2F Clonmore King (p.u.), 11-2 Lesro Meat, Sir Knight, 9 Bellow The Salt (6th), 12 Aberammer, Greenways (5th), 20 Mr Gumboots (p.u.), Velocity's Pie (p.u.), Bankside (p.u.), Royal Classic (p.u.), Flashy's Pal, Bankline Byway (p.u.), Malicious Red (p.u.), Tout (u.r.). 18 ran. 3l, 4l, 2l, 2½l, 3l. (S. Mellor, Lambourn). Tote: Win, £9·70; places, £6·40, £3·90, £2·30, £4·00. Dual F'cast, £265·90. SPSF: £196·69. Tricast: £1,132·36.

PLACEPOT: Not won. Pool £1,081·55 carried forward to Cheltenham today.

John Player Special Cup

JUST WHAT WE WANTED, SAY GLOUCESTER

By JOHN MASON

GLOUCESTER, who have to win the John Player Special Cup next month to be sure of being in next season's competition, have been drawn at home to Bath, the holders, in the semi-finals on Saturday week.

Coventry, whose overall Cup record is the best among England's senior clubs, are hosts to London Welsh, who will be travelling for the third time in this winter's competition.

Semi-finals

Gloucester v. Bath
Coventry v. London Welsh
Ties to be played March 23

"Digger" Morris, a long serving Gloucester committee member and an uncompromising forward in his youth, could not restrain an uninhibited cheer when Albert Agar, the R F U president, drew Gloucester first, followed by Bath, from the red bag.

"Shake 'em well," Mr Morris had urged the president seconds previously as Bob Weighill, the RFU secretary, formally announced in London yesterday that the draw for the semi-finals was about to be made.

Essential to win

"Just the one we wanted," enthused Mr Morris, who then confessed that, though he had difficulty in understanding the regulations governing next season's entry to the Cup, he was aware that victory at Twickenham in the final next month was essential.

"There's some talk about the divisional merit table and all that," added Mr Morris, "which says that a win over Exeter would give Gloucester a Cup place. But we're due to play Exeter on finals day, so you see what I mean when I say we have to win the Cup."

While Mr Morris was debating the absurdities of the South-West divisional merit table — for Gloucester to go into Cornwall is a round trip of more than 400 miles—Roger Spurrell, Bath's captain, was contemplating the more immediate effects of the draw.

"By choice," said Spurrell, a fraction more earnest than is sometimes the case. "I would not have wanted Gloucester away. It would have been nice to have another all West Country final. But I see no reason why we shouldn't go on winning.

Respect for Gadd

"I've heard a whisper," Spurrell added, the imp in him surfacing swiftly at an impromptu Press conference, "that they are running the ball. But that's very difficult to believe.

"Our defeat at Brixham before the fourth-round match with Blackheath shook the team up. The players now "want" the Cup and that makes all the difference. This one could be settled by the backrows. John Gadd is back for Gloucester and I respect him!"

Alan Brinn, Gloucestershire's chairman of selectors and a former England lock, said: "Our good fortune in getting another home draw is marvellous. To have had three home draws against London opposition and then the chance to knock out the holders on our ground, is ideal."

Gloucester will also be seeking reassurances that John Orwin, their captain and the England lock, will be available. Orwin, an R A F VC-10 filter at Brize Norton, is also required for the R A F's match with the Army at Twickenham. The club, presumably will take precedence.

Harry Walker, Coventry's match secretary who first played for the club more than 50 years ago, was delighted with yesterday's draw. The club's transformation since Christmas was such that they feared no opposition, home or away.

Superb exhibition

"We saw off Moseley and then gave a superb exhibition to put out Leicester, said Mr Walker. "This is the match we wanted and it's a great draw. Our record before Christmas wasn't very good but we're a totally different side now."

London Welsh do not disagree, though they will not surrender lightly the chance of appearing in a Twickenham final for the first time. Not only have they beaten Coventry twice before in the Cup but they have also defeated them this season.

"I grant, though," said Clive Rees, the London Welsh captain, after I had rung the draw to him, "that having beaten Coventry at home, that they will be a different kettle of fish up there.

"My target for this season has been to remain unbeaten at home and try and put the Cup to one side. At this stage of the competition all the teams are good and it will be hard. We shall be thinking hard — and training hard. Organisation and discipline are so important."

South East Rugby

CHESHUNT'S FLAIR PATH

By BILL DAY

CHESHUNT have finally buried the theory that they lack the discipline and flair necessary to win a major tournament.

"We've broken the ice and now nothing's beyond the capabilities of this side," said Peter Goodwin, a delighted Cheshunt official, last night.

Twenty-four hours earlier he had watched Cheshunt snatch a penalty goal in extra time, kicked by Simon King, their inspiring captain, to sink Tabard 6-3 in the Herts Presidents Cup final.

It was third time lucky for Cheshunt in the Cup and destroyed the belief in Hertfordshire that their expertise was limited to sevens.

Cheshunt have an impressive array of trophies collected from their exploits in sevens and have made frequent appearances in the Middlesex event.

Tabard are undaunted by their final defeat—it was only the ninth time in 100 matches that they had been defeated.

Ivor Jones, their captain, formerly of Loughborough Colleges, Wasps and Saracens, says: "We've made tremendous progress since our inception in 1951. In the past three years we have achieved enough to make us one of the most improved junior clubs in the region."

Rugby League

SEMI-FINAL DRAW

A repeat of last season's Wembley final between Widnes and Wigan, or a clash between the two Hull clubs, were two of the possibilities to emerge from yesterday's draw for the Rugby League Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-finals.

DRAW.—Hull K.R. v Wigan (Elland Rd, Leeds, March 23). Hull or Widnes v Castleford (April 6—venue to be decided).

BOWLS

WORTHING OPEN TRIPLES. — C. Knight (Arun) 20, K. Baker (Worthing) 10—J. Silvester (Worthing) 22, J. Norman (Victor) 9—M. Reese (Worthing) 17, D. Peebles (Windlesham) 16—M. Browning (King Alfred) 20, T. Tomsett (Worthing) 16—E. Parsons (Worthing) 22, T. Pipe (Grafton) 12—D. Dennis (Victor) 21, J. Wilkins (Worthing) 13—A. Twine (Billingshurst) 20, N. Wiffen (Worthing) 4—K. Pope (Worthing) 20, E. Taylor (Arun) 18.

Rugby in Wales

Bridgend face second-row puzzle

By DAVID GREEN

ADRIAN OWEN, the Bridgend lock sent off during their 34-13 midweek defeat at Swansea, is automatically disqualified from appearing in the Schweppes Welsh Cup semi-final against Llanelli on Saturday week.

Bridgend, already weakened by the retirement of Lynn Davies and the absence through injury of middle jumper Roy Evans, can now call on only one regular second row forward—the veteran Billy Howe.

Saturday's experiment of playing Gareth Williams in the middle of the lineout with David Arthur jumping at the front came unstuck as Bridgend, starved of possession, lost 21-9 to Aberavon, who recorded only their second away win of the season.

When Williams has been effective in the midle of the line he has packed down at No. 8. The more arduous scrummaging duties in the second row inhibited his jumping on Saturday.

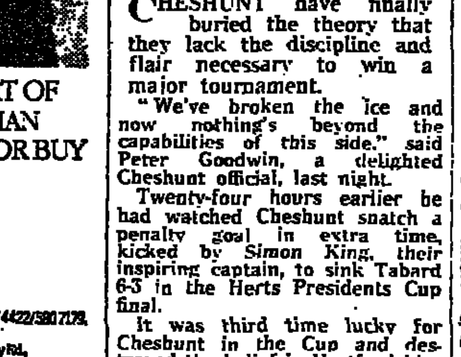
Arthur's problem

Arthur, capped by Wales B in 1977 as a front jumper when at Maesteg, has operated as a flanker for the last six seasons and cannot be expected to adjust easily to playing again in the second row.

Llanelli, beaten 30-6 at Bristol in midweek and not entirely convincing in Saturday's 34-22 home win against Wakefield, will be comforted by Bridgend's difficulties as they hope for a record sixth Cup final appearance.

Gary Tucker, Neath's flying left winger, who has scored 18 tries this season, is having problems with an ankle injury suffered last month. Tucker, confident all was well, broke down in training last week.

He will be disappointed to have missed Neath's seven-try spree at Saracens last Saturday. They scored 38 points and are now within 17 of their record 987, achieved in 1976-77.



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WARRINGTON: 16/20 Horsemarket St. Tel: 51944.
YEOVIL: At Marney's, 3/5 Bond St. Tel: 23257.
YORK: 10 The Stonegate Arcade. Tel: 51809.
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CARDIFF: 97 Queen St. Tel: 42036.
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See what we mean on page 7

Fuzzy Zoeller . . . says it is about time he won the Open.

Ice Hockey

BARONS THIRD TO WALK OUT

By HOWARD BASS

SOLIHULL BARONS have become the third team in a fortnight to cause a Heineken League match to be abandoned by refusing to finish it. They left the ice at Crowtree only three minutes from time, when trailing 14-6.

It happened within 48 hours of the B I H A's fining Streatham and Ayr and suspending their managers for taking similar action. Fred Meredith, the Association president, had said: "We will not condone such behaviour, particularly now that our games are being played in front of increasing numbers of fans."

With the points almost certain to be awarded to Crowtree Solihull's promotion hopes completely sank when **Peterborough Pirates** defeated **Lea Valley Lions** 11-2 to establish a Frist Division lead of four points with only three games left.

Leading scorer

John Lawless, the division's leading scorer hit four for Peterborough after Dave Rapley had scored for the Lions.

Meantime, **Durham Wasps** took over the Premier Divisio nlead from **Fife** with a significant 5-4 win at third-place **Murrayfield**. amie Crapper scored the winner with 19 seconds left, his hat-trick helping Durham extend their unbeaten run to 16 games.

Streatham Redskins consolidated their fourth place with a 5-1 home victory over **Southampton Vikings**, but the Lodoners had to work hard after Marshall Uretsky had put the visitors in front.

Cleveland Bombers boosted their chances of a pay-off berth when routing **Nottingham Panthers** 10-1 and afterwards forcing a 4-4 draw at **Dundee**, even though the shots ratio was salavaged Dundee's points five minutes from time.

HEINEKEN LEAGUE.—Prem Div: Cleveland 10, Nottingham 1—Dundee 4, Cleveland 4—Murrayfield 4, Durham 5—Streatham 5, Southampton 1—Whitley 12, Nottingham 7.

Div I: Bournemouth 15, Deeside 4—Crowtree 14, Solihull 6 (aband 57)—Glasgow 14, Blackpool 8—Peterborough 11, Lee Valley 2—Richmond 8, Altrincham 7.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	pts
Durham	23	22	4	2	255	166	46
Fife	29	20	5	4	269	145	44
Murrayf'd	27	17	7	3	215	137	37
Streatham	29	15	12	2	183	161	32
Cleveland	31	14	14	3	256	259	31
Dundee	29	14	12	3	201	131	31
Ayr	23	12	13	3	207	208	27
Nottinghm	31	12	18	1	131	185	25
Whitley	30	6	25	1	209	300	13
Sothmptn	23	2	26	0	90	301	4

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	pts
Peterboro	17	16	1	0	267	82	32
Solihull	16	14	2	0	253	72	28
Glasgow	16	10	6	0	228	116	20
Lee Valley	17	10	7	0	125	105	20
Crowtree	16	10	6	0	186	138	20
Blackpool	14	8	6	0	155	119	16
Altrinchm	15	6	9	0	77	95	12
Bournemth	17	5	12	0	137	182	10
Richmond	15	3	11	1	49	220	7
Grimsby	18	3	15	0	105	272	6
Deeside	15	2	12	1	50	208	5

Teams tied on points are separated by results between them.

OTHER SPORT TODAY

ATHLETICS. — Sankey Vending Sportshall West Midlands final (Aston).
BASKETBALL: — Carlsberg Nat. Ch'ship, qtr-finals (8): Manchester Utd v Hemel & Watford; Leicester v Manchester Giants.
BILLIARDS.—Eurotherm World Prof. Ch'ship (Halton Gdn SC, London. 11 a.m. & 6).
CURLING — Uniroyal World Jun. Ch'ship (Perth Ice Rink).
RACKETS. — Celestion Loudspeakers Open Doubles (Queen's Club, W. Kensington).

Basketball

Bracknell set for uphill battle

By RICHARD TAYLOR

THE road to Wembley is much steeper now for the three underdogs who lost home games in the quarter-finals of the Carlsberg play-offs at the weekend.

Last season's semi-finalists, Bracknell, can return to Wembley on March 30-31 only by beating Division One champions and Cup winners Kingston twice on their own court, so victory tomorrow night will put Steve Bootrager's team on course for the treble.

Hemel are in the same position against League runners-up, **Manchester United**, after throwing away a three-point lead in the final 40 seconds to lose 69-68.

United can book their Wembley hotel if they win their second match against Hemel tonight, but they have not performed well at their new Stretford venue, and if Will Brown is again ruled out through injury Hemel could take the tie to a third game.

Worthing froze in the final 90 seconds at home to lose 95-91 to **Solent** and the determination which pulled the club through their financial crisis two months ago could now see last season's triple winners defending their Wembley title. They play tomorrow.

The fourth quarter-final tie begins tonight when a crowd of 3,000 will cram into the Granby Halls, **Leicester**, hoping to see their side strike the first blow for the outsiders against **Manchester Giants**.

The second match between these teams has been put back until Sunday at Altrincham to guarantee a tie for Channel 4, in case the other three quarter-finals are settled.

FINAL TABLE

	P.	W.	Pts.
Kingston	26	24	48
Manchester Utd	26	19	38
Manchester Giants	26	18	36
Solent	26	17	34
Worthing	26	17	34
Leicester	26	15	30
Hemel	26	15	30
Bracknell	26	15	30
Sunderland	26	12	24
Crystal Palace	26	12	24
Doncaster	26	10	20
Birmingham	26	6	12
Portsmouth	26	1	2
Bolton	26	1	2

Volleyball

TENNANT'S DIVIDED LOYALTIES

By VICTOR HEAD

LYN Tennant has won 49 international caps for Scotland at volleyball, but Saturday's annual clash with England will be unusually demanding.

This time she will be on the opposite side of the net, winning her 10th cap for England. "I'll be facing my own team mates from Telford," Lyn said. "And that will be strange."

When Lyn, a P.E. graduate from Edinburgh, moved south to take a post with a health centre at Reading, she joined the English champions, Hillingdon. She is qualified by marriage to represent England.

Clear wins

Lyn and her **Hillingdon** colleagues sharpened up for the two weekend internationals at **Aberdeen** with a 3-1 victory over Spark to maintain their challenge for the Britvic National League.

Failure to reach Bradford for one fixture—they were halted by snow at Nottingham—incurred a penalty of one 'defeat' by forfeit and a total of four league points.

This means that their home match with Ashcombe on March 31 will decide the championship because Ashcombe maintained their form with clear wins over Speedwell Ruconor and Birmingham. Leading positions:

	P	W	L	Sets F	Sets A	Pts
Ashcombe	16	15	1	46	11	30
Hillingdon	16	15	1	45	6	30
Spark	16	13	3	42	23	26
Portsmouth	16	11	5	38	21	22

England men's squad have a training weekend to prepare for their forthcoming internatonal with Scotland, and in the Mikasa Cup Spark made up for their League disappointments by reaching the final with a surprise 3-1 success against the holders, Capital City Spikers.

Ski-ing

KLAMMER MAY RETIRE

Franz Klammer, the Austrian downhill skier, has hinted that he may be about to retire.

Klammer, who competed in the World Alpine Cup in Aspen, Colorado, last Saturday, has had a disappointing season, and will announce his plans for the future in Las Vegas on Friday.

Ski-ing

'SOLE EVENT' CALLED OFF

By ALAN SMITH

The British Freestyle ski championships, due to be held at Aviemore, on April 15 to 18 have been cancelled as the organisers have been unable to find a sponsor.

A spokesman for the British Ski Federation said: "This decision has been taken with extreme reluctance, but we did not want to repeat the struggles of last year."

No sponsor was available in 1984, but talks with a number of firms had raised hopes for this season. The Freestyle was due to be the only British ski-ing championship held at home.

This is the type of ski-ing at which the British excel and Mike Nemesvary is now fourth in the combined World Cup standings.

Boat Race—April 6

Oxford struggle to find form

By GEOFFREY PAGE

THE Boat Race and the Head of the River are only a few weeks away and activity on the tideway last weekend was again intense.

Both Boat Race crews and other visitors, notably Leander and the Woldringham squad crews, were on view on the Thames.

Oxford were out on Saturday with the A R A lightweights determined to improve on their previous lack-lustre performance, but after threatening to overwhelm the opposition, the Dark Blues again disappointed.

In a three-minute piece, they had taken a length after 45 seconds but again failed to capitalise and were only a canvas clear when they stopped. They were then set to row between Putney and Hammersmith Bridges.

Admittedly, Oxford had the worst of an awkward early wash and were not helped by Lesser's steering out twice after pushing over too hard.

But the bladework was washy and it took them six minutes to draw level after starting a third of a length down.

Not convincing

They eventually finished one-and-a-half lengths ahead but it was far from convincing performance. However, they were rather better on Sunday in two rows with the London University Tyrian crew, who had Olympic gold-medallist Richard Budgett at five.

In the main row, again between Hammersmith and Putney Bridges, Oxford looked more solid and confident, finishing some three lengths ahead. They still have problems to solve, though, and Hare is markedly shorter at the catch than Lang.

Cambridge, on the other hand, again under the care of the Canadian coach Neil Campbell, seemed to be going from strength to strength. Moving their Olympic oarsman, Pritchard, to stroke has paid rich dividends.

They were far too good for Leander on both days. On Saturday Peel's button slipped on the first stroke after the crews had restarted following a clash, but Cambridge were still too fast.

Went away

Rowing from the old Aylings Workshops to Hammersmith, Cambridge went right away after Craven Cottage to finish three-and-a-half lengths ahead. Despite Peel's problems, this was the best piece of rowing by a Cambridge crew I can remember for some years.

On present form, it would be a bold man who would predict an Oxford victory. Though on paper they should start favourites, in practice they have not yet "clicked" together. Cambridge are now more uniform and lively and full of confidence.

OXFORD.—G. Cartlidge (Hampton & New College)—bow; C. L. Richmond (St Edwards & Christchurch), B. M. Philp (Bryanston, Downing & Worcester), A. M. S. Thomas (Winchester & Pembroke), P. M. Hare (St Albans & Balliol), G. R. D. Jones (Sydney University, Australia, & New College), W. J. Lang (Wallingford & Magdalen), F. M. Reininger (Pennsylvania University & University) stroke, S. R. Lesser (Princeton University & Magdalen) cox.

CAMBRIDGE.—J. S. Wilter (Pangbourne & St Catherine's) bow; M. L. Pasternak (Bradford GS & Magdalene), J. D. Hughes (Bedford Modern & Downing), P. H. Broughton (Southampton University & Magdalene), S. Peel (Kings Chester & Downing), G. A. Barnard (Lakefield College School, Canada & Robinson), J. L. Garrett (Shrewsbury & St John's), J. M. Pritchard (St Clement Danes & Robinson) stroke, H. Shaw (Harrogate & St John's) cox.

U.S. Golf

DEFIANT ZOELLER'S REWARD

By ALEX LANCASTER in Orlando, Florida

FUZZY ZOELLER, 33, topped off a remarkable comeback following his major back operation of last September by winning Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Classic in Orlando, Florida, by two strokes from Tom Watson.

Zoeller defied the forecasts of his own surgeons and the warning of Lee Trevino, another back sufferer, and restarted his career rather sooner than expected.

"I began to practice only about five weeks ago and really came to Florida just to try to get into shape. I only expected to make the cuts," said Zoeller after a final 67 had earned him the £90,000 first prize. He had finished 46 in his first tournament in Miami, and 20th at the Honda Classic.

Zoeller has been dogged by back trouble since hurting himself playing basketball at college in Indiana. Finally he had to have two discs removed, and not until Jan. 2 did he swing a club again.

Two strokes clear

Zoeller went out in 32 with four birdies to stand two shots clear of Watson and Mark Lye by the turn. At the 18th he still had a two-stroke lead, but hit a five iron through the green into heavy rough. However, he pitched to six feet and holed out with a typical grin.

"My big goal this season is to win the Open at Royal St George's" announced Zoeller. "I have been coming over so many years that it is about time I won."

The leading Europeans, Nick Faldo and Bernhard Langer, both scored 71 to finish joint 18th and win £6,500 each. Sandy Lyle attempting to win about £42,500 to get his U.S. card, earned only £1,000 for his 295.

Jim Thorpe, the black professional, went nearest to the £1 million prize for the first hole in one at the 17th. Playing just behind Lyle he hit his tee shot 18 inches to the left of the flag.

FINAL LEADERS

275—F. Zoeller 70, 72, 66, 67.
277—T. Watson 73, 67, 70, 67.
278—M. Lye 71, 72, 68, 67.
280—C. Strange 73, 67, 68, 72.
281—L. Nelson 72, 68, 70, 71; P. Azinger 72, 65, 74, 70; B. Glasson 73, 75, 68, 68.
282—A. Bean 73, 68, 69, 72; B. Kratzert 72, 66, 75, 69; A. North 75, 70, 69, 68; C. Pavin 72, 67, 72, 71.
OTHER SCORES. — 284—N. Faldo (G.B.) 70, 71, 72, 71; B. Langer (W. Germany) 74, 70, 69, 71. 288—S. Ballesteros (Spain) 71, 69, 73, 75. 295—S. Lyle (G.B.) 72, 72, 79, 72.

ZOELLER IN TOP 10

Fuzzy Zoeller burst into the top 10 of the U.S. P G A Tour money list with his victory in the Bay Hill Classic at the weekend.

LEADERS.—M. O'Meara £178,475, 1; L. Wadkins £169,655, 2; C. Strange £147,955, 3; C. Stadler £125,285, 4; C. Peete £98,655, 5; F. Zoeller £88,300, 6.

British placings: N. Faldo £35,250, 49; P. Oosterhuis £17,260, 64; S. Lyle £14,815, 73; K. Brown £5,405, 117.

Hockey

OLTON TAKE THE TITLE

By CHRIS MOORE

Olton and West Warwicks managed to score only two goals in two matches over the weekend but they were enough to earn them six points and the Sitact League title.

On Saturday a goal from Dave Darleston gave them victory at Redditch, while championship rivals Bournville were held to a 1-1 draw by **Leicester Westleigh**.

Their victory took Olton to the top of the table for the first time this season and they went into their final match against **Stone** on Sunday knowing that another three points would give them the title.

Martin Brough scored the crucial goal from a short corner after 15 minutes. Bournville, even with one match still to play, now have no hope of finishing at the top after leading throughout the season.

Loss of form

At Christmas Bournville were seven points ahead and seemingly certain champions. Since the mid-season break, though, they have suffered a disastrous loss of form.

Olton, who last took the championship three years ago, will now represent the Midlands in the National Inter-League Championship at Prescot, near Liverpool, on May 4-5.

Obituary

ALAN BARBER DIES AT 79

By E. W. SWANTON

Alan Theodore Barber, who has died aged 79, was an outstanding Shrewsbury and Oxford games-player of the '20s before he took on for a single season only, in 1930, the captaincy of Yorkshire.

Thereafter, he gave his energies to schoolmastering. He was for 39 years headmaster of Ludgrove, a distinguished preparatory school with a particular reputation for producing cricketers.

Barber captained Oxford at cricket and soccer, and was a golf Half Blue. As a cricketer he was a courageous bat, at his best in a tight corner, and an intrepid close fielder.

On the football field he displayed similar qualities as a half-back, and showed sufficient skill to tour abroad with the Corinthians and represent them in the F A Cup.

Team's respect

Yorkshire had not quite the bowling to win the Championship in 1930—it was, incidentally, Rhodes's last season and Verity's first—but such was the impact of the captain's personality on those hard-headed characters that they made a handsome presentation to him at the end of the summer.

Barber's last years were dogged by ill-health, but the cheerful philosophy of this most active of men was proof even against confinement to a wheel-chair. As an amateur games-player he personified the ideal in a happier age.

Other obituaries—P14

Golf Roundabout

Making handicaps reflect the game

By MICHAEL WILLIAMS

PERHAPS it was as well that the Berkhamsted trophy, which launched the amateur golf season in England, fell within the four-month period during which handicaps can only go down, not up.

Only eight of the 66 players, all but a handful of whom were one handicap or better, matched or improved upon the standard scratch score of 72 in either of their two rounds.

Four of those players equalled the S S S and only four, therefore, including the winner, Freddie George, got their handicaps down.

The remainder are, nevertheless, spared the decimal increase to their handicaps that applies during the other eight months of the year, provided, that, on such occasions, they remember to notify their home clubs.

Grey area

This remains a grey area as far as Category One golfers—handicap five and better—are concerned. It can obviously be convenient to be forgetful, as an additional handicap stroke could mean the difference between playing in some future open competition and being balloted out.

That such a responsibility should be left with the player has, therefore, disadvantages, but the alternatives are hardly, for the moment, considered practical.

The first would be for the host club to telephone and/or write to the clubs of the players concerned and give the relevant information. This, however, would involve the club secretaries in more work than they might relish.

Ideally, it would be better to have a central banking system into which all returns by Category One players could be fed. Again, however, the cost of such machinery is beyond the handicapping authority, the Council of National Golf Unions.

I only return to the subject of handicaps because of the weight of correspondence I have received following my article on "Major Bogey." A golfing bandit he had his handicap clipped by three strokes after "cleaning up" in a succession of events outside his home club where, by contrast, his returns did not merit such a decrease.

This action was taken under Rule 19, which covers general play or, as some would prefer to call it, commonsense gleaned from the grapevine around the club bar.

The new handicapping system, with its decimal poin tadjustments, must necessarily be precise. It is Rule 19 that provides the flexibility.

The theme of the correspondence is that different clubs interpret the new rules in different ways, mostly to the consternation of the senior golfers whose competitiv edays are ove rand who just want to enjoy their golf under a handicap they can manage.

One reader writes that more than 40 members of his club suddenly having their handicap cut by two strokes, and another of a member of 72, who won the Veteran's knock-out last year, losing a stroke, even though he has since undergone a major operation.

There is also the case of the player who was cut because he played under his handicap and then cut again because he was also the winner.

Other than the non-counting winter period of four months, increases of 0·1, instead of 0·2, and the continuation in 1985 of the experiemnetal buffer zone in which returns within two strokes of the S S S are considered to be playing to handicap, nothing has changed and is unlikely to do so.

Making everyone equal, which is the purpose of handicapping, remains a near - impossible exercise. One million returns were once analysed by computer in America and equality between any two golfers came only if the difference between handicaps was multiplied by 1·27. Who would enjoy working that one out on the first tee?

AMATEUR REPORT SUBMITTED

The Commission set up to examine the future of amateur golf world-wide has now submitted a report to the Royal and Ancient's Amateur Status Committee, writes Michael Williams.

This will go before the R & A's general committee next week and will then be submitted to the International Golf Conference at St Andrews in May.

Peter Gardiner-Hill, chairman of the Commission and a past captain of the R & A, says that seven meetings and intensive market research in the last 10 months have revealed complex problems.

Among them are sponsorship, expenses and betting, all of which are areas of the game in which it is easy innocently to transgress the existing rules.

County Golf

Dedicated George, 19, proves his loyalty

By BILL MEREDITH

FREDDIE GEORGE, 19, on Saturday became the youngest player to win the Berkhamsted Trophy; the next day he turned out for the Berks, Bucks and Oxon county side — and won both his matches.

George is that sort of dedicated youngster, a fact much appreciated by his county captain, Peter Parsons, although even George's stirling efforts could not save B B & O from defeat against Hampshire at Goring and Streetley.

Hampshire squeezed home by $6\frac{1}{2}$-$5\frac{1}{2}$, after an exciting tussle in which no fewer than 10 of the 12 matches went to the 17th green or beyond.

After teaming up with Reeves Weedon for a foursome win over Stephen Richardson and Steve Watson, George had a rare battle with young Nick Cole before beating him on the 18th.

Lane excels

Richardson was involved in an exciting singles against David Lane, the B B & O and England "veteran," who showed all his old cunning in squaring his match after being two down with two to play.

One of the Hampshire heroes was Scott Watson, 18, from Tylney Park. He beat Weedon by 3 and 1 and, according to Hampshire secretary John McCracken, is "one of the country's big hopes for the future."

Malcolm Edmunds, who played for Cornwall last season, has moved up to Hampshire with the Navy. He used his experience to register a sound 4 and 2 win over David Niven, while Peter Desty hung on well to beat Gary Steel, 18, by two up.

Neither side was at full strength, and certainly Parsons is looking forward to having Mark Froggatt, an Ulsterman who plays at Denham and has reached the last eight of the President's Putter, on duty when B B & O strike out in defence of their DAILY TELEGRAPH salver in the South-East this summer.

B.B. & O. $5\frac{1}{2}$, HANTS $6\frac{1}{2}$.
FOURSOMES.—D. Lane & M. Rapley lost to N. Cole & N. Graves 2 & 1; F. George & R. Weedon bt S. Richardson & S. Watson 2 & 1; A. Brewer & A. Millar bt M. Edmunds & C. Cole 2 & 1; D. Niven & G. Steel lost to P. Anthony & P. Desty 2 & 1. B.B. & O. 2, Hants 2.
SINGLES.—Lane hlvd with Richardson; George bt N. Cole 1 up; Weedon lost to Watson 3 & 1; Brewer lost to Graves 3 & 2; Rapley bt C. Cole 1 up; Niven lost to Edmunds 4 & 2; Millar bt Anthony 1 up; Steel lost to Desty 2 up. B.B. & O. $3\frac{1}{2}$, Hants $4\frac{1}{2}$.

UNIDEN INVITATION T'MENT (All U.S.).—277—B. Lauer 70, 71, 68, 68. 282—A. Miller 70, 71, 72, 69. 285—N. Lopez 73, 70, 73, 69. 287—D. White 80, 71, 70, 66. 288—K. Baker 74, 70, 73, 71.

FRED BEETS

Fred Beets, former professional at Weymouth Golf Club, has died at the age of 93. He was 68 when he last won the Dorset professional stroke play championship.

Cricket

Kapil Dev to lead India again

KAPIL DEV, the all-rounder, will lead India in a four-nation International Cricket Tournament to begin on March 22 in the United Arab Emirates.

The announcement, by a five-member selection committee, came the day after India won the Seven-Nation World Championship in Australia under the leadership of Sunil Gavaskar.

Gavaskar, 35, earlier told the committee that he wished to step down as captain after the World tournament.

Organisers praised

Before leaving Australia, Gavaskar praised the way the World Championship was organised, and it now looks likely that Australia will be chosen to stage the official one-day World Cup.

Meanwhile, Warwickshire have signed Tim Munton, 19, a fast bowler fro m Leicestershire, and have offered a contract to Tom Stancombe, 18, from Hertfordshire, who reached the last six of the national "Find a Fast Bowler" Competition last season. They will be joined by Wayne Matthews, who is returning to Edgbaston after spending the last two years on the Lord's ground staff.

David Steele, the former Northamptonshire and England batsman who recently retired from first-class cricket after more than 20 years, is to play for Bedfordshire this summer in the Minor Counties Championship.

Swimming

YOUTH TEAM FOR GERMAN FESTIVAL

Butterfly rivals Stephen Ferriday, of Leeds, and Richard Leishman, of Kirklees, have been named in England's 24-strong Esso youth swimming squad for an international festival at Gelsenkirchen, West Germany, on Saturday and Sunday.

This 25-metre pool event provides the third of five trips abroad this year for the boys, 15 and 16, and girls, 14 and 15, as part of their build-up to the European Youth Championships in Geneva at the end of July.

BOYS.—M. Duffy (Chester-le-Street), M. Euston (Derby), S. Ferriday (Leeds), A. FitzGerald (Southend Synchro), S. Harding (Salford), S. Hey (Liverpool), R. Leishman (Kirklees), M. Moodmont (Harrow & Wealdstone), D. McNulty (Stanley), M. Stacey (Norwich), I. Wilson (South Tyneside), G. Wright (Rotherham).
GIRLS.—G. Atkins (Portsmouth Northsea), K. Edbrooke (Guildford), H. Frank (Leeds), R. Hill (Worcester), [illegible] Ivison (S. Tyneside), A. Longley (Stockton), J. Manning (Gloucester), M. O'Fee (Wigan), L. Rattivan (Rochdale), S. Tinsley (Preston), S. Travis (Portsmouth Northsea), J. Wood (Nova, Nottingham).

ICE HOCKEY

WOMEN'S MATCH (Oxford).—Oxford Univ 3, Cambridge Univ 2.

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TELEVISION

TUESDAY GUIDE BY PETER KNIGHT

BBC-1

6 50 a.m.-9.20 BREAKFAST TIME, with Selina Scott and Nick Ross. 10.20-10.50 Play School, rpt.

12 30 NEWS, WEATHER. 12.57 Regional News (London and South East only: Financial Report and News Headlines).

1 00 PEBBLE MILL AT ONE—Flower arranger Howard Franklin begins a new series. 1.45 Hokey Cokey, rpt.

2 00-3.5 THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL—The 2.15 and 2.50 races with further coverage of the meeting continued on BBC 2. 3.48 (not London) Regional News.

3 50 PLAY SCHOOL. 4.10 Dastardly and Muttley, rpt. 4.15 Tatty Apple by Jenny Nimmo, read by Hayley Mills. 4.30 Laurel and Hardy cartoon. 4.35 Think Again.

5 00 NEWSROUND with Paul McDowell. 5.10 Who, Sir? Me, Sir? New six-part comedy-drama serial adapted by Jenny McDade from the book by K. M. Peyton. It follows the efforts of a bunch of unruly schoolboys to compete in a tetrathlon against a crack team from a neighbouring school. 5.35 Dr. Kildare—Read the Book, Then See the Picture, rpt. (Wales: Wales Today.)

6 00 NEWS, WEATHER.

6 35 REGIONAL MAGAZINES. (Wales: The Chris Stuart Cha Cha Chat Show.)

7 00 EASTENDERS. (Ceefax.)

7 30 *BLANKETY BLANK.*

8 05 * MAELSTROM—Out of the Depths. It's been a bit of a leisurely, languid but always intriguing, cruise around the Norwegian fjords and tonight all will be revealed in the final episode of this Michael J. Bird serial. Catherine at last learns the truth about her inheritance and also the identity of her tormentor. (Ceefax.)

8 50 POINTS OF VIEW—Barry Took with more viewers' comments on BBC programmes.

9 00 NEWS, WEATHER.

9 25 MIAMI VICE—Calderone's Demise. After the murder of Lt. Rodriguez, Crockett and Tubbs get on the trail of their old enemy, Calderone, a trail which leads them to the Bahamas. (Wales: Miami Vice—Hit List.)

10 15 FILM 85—Under Barry Norman's critical scrutiny tonight will be "2010", the sequel to Stanley Kubrick's "Space Odyssey 2001"; "Wetherby", written and directed by David Hare; and "A Soldier's Story", which has received three Academy Award nominations.

10 45 LOOSE ENDS—General knowledge quiz presented by Tim Brooke-Taylor. London and South East only (East—Spectrum: *Midlands—Midlands Tonight; North—Northern Lights; South—Southern Life; South West—Southern Life; West—RPM; Wales—Sporting Chance*).

11 15 THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL—Highlights from today's meeting. 11.35 Weather.

BBC-2

6 55 a.m.-7.20 OPEN UNIVERSITY. 9.26-3 Daytime on Two—A run of short educational programmes for children and adults, mostly repeats.

3 05-4.20 THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL—The 3.30 and 4.5 races.

5 25 NEWS, WEATHER. 5.30 Pageant — The 1933 historical pageant staged at Warkworth Castle in Northumberland. First shown on BBC North East.

6 00 THE HIGH CHAPARRAL—The Assassins. Repeat.

6 50 OFF THE RECORD—Tessa Sanderson picks out some of her favourite discs in her record collection. Artists include Barbra Streisand, Tina Turner and Gladys Knight.

7 00 WHISTLE TEST—Including the TV debut of the controversial group The Jesus and Mary Chain, the Faith Brothers in live sessions, Andy Kershaw reporting from Cambridge on a rock group competition organised by the City Council, archive clips of a Gary Numan session, and Mike Read with the latest charts.

8 00 TOP GEAR—William Woollard tests Sir Clive Sinclair's C5 electrically driven tricycle and also looks at some of his competitors' products; Chris Goffey examines a Peugeot research vehicle; and Sue Baker tests a new sports car from Japan.

8 30 ENTERTAINMENT U.S.A. 2—Jonathan King with an update on his recent report from Hawaii.

9 00 INSIDE OUT—Members of the Excell agency get a chance to put some of their old skills to the test when they are challenged to break into a factory and open a safe. (Ceefax.)

9 50 POT BLACK 85—The second quarter-final: Cliff Thorburn v Willie Thorne.

10 15 * MAESTRO—George Best. Wisely and perhaps mercifully, Barry Davis sticks almost entirely to the on-field exploits of the wayward genius, who is arguably the finest and most exciting natural footballer Britain has ever produced. Predictably Best has some quite scathing comments on the media, claiming that all great athletes are treated appallingly by the Press in this country. But he also comes up with a feast of football anecdotes and there is a generous amount of film footage of his glory days to testify to his brilliance and, sadly, remind us of the immense talent that was eventually wasted.

11 00 NEWSNIGHT. 11.45 Weather. 11.50-12.45 Open University.

ITV Thames

6 15 a.m. GOOD MORNING BRITAIN. 9.25 Thames News Headlines. 9.30 For Schools. 12 Cockleshell Bay, rpt. 12.10 Rainbow, rpt. 12.30 The Sullivans.

1 00 NEWS. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Strangers—Clever Dick. Repeat.

2 30 DAYTIME—Sarah Kennedy, her guests and studio audience explore another current topic. 3 Gambit. 3.25 Thames News Headlines. 3.30 The Young Doctors.

4 00 COCKLESHELL BAY, rpt. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Bunnicula the Vampire Rabbit. 4.45 CBTV. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm.

5 45 NEWS.

6 00 THAMES NEWS.

6 20 HELP!—presented by Viv Taylor Gee: Crossroads Care Attendant Schemes.

6 30 CROSSROADS.

6 55 REPORTING LONDON: An enquiry into side-effects from epidural injections during childbirth; and "race war" in the Labour Party.

7 30 BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY—Teams of vicars, women prison officers and doctors compete this week, plus film of the winning police team enjoying their Busman's Holiday of a lifetime with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Ottawa. (Oracle.)

8 00 UP THE ELEPHANT AND ROUND THE CASTLE—May the Best Man Win. Jim is invited to be best man at his friend's wedding. Repeat.

8 30 CHANCE IN A MILLION—Honour Thy Father. Alison's parents decide to confront Chance after her first disastrous encounter with him. Repeat.

9 00 TELEVISION—News: The Power of Pictures. Continuing its analysis of television news, this programme investigates its impact on viewers and its ability to influence events. Television coverage of the Vietnam war, the Biafran crisis, the invasion of Czechoslovakia and the Watergate Affair all come in for examination. (Oracle.)

10 00 NEWS AT TEN, followed by Thames News Headlines.

10 30 WIDOWS—Dolly, Linda and Shirley press on with their robbery plans. Repeat. 12.25 Night Thoughts, with Dr. Sheila Cassidy.

Channel 4

2 30 p.m. THE HUMAN JUNGLE—Dual Control. B/w, rpt. 3.25 The Three Stooges in "Phoney Express" (b/w).

3 45 YEARS AHEAD—Presented by Robert Dougall and including an item on different types of wheelchairs.

4 30 COUNTDOWN—Presented by Richard Whiteley. 5 Bewitched. 5.30 Making the Most of ... with tips on framing pictures and table top photography.

6 00 THE AVENGERS—The Girl from Auntie. B/w, rpt. Steed returns from holiday to find a shapely blonde impersonating Mrs. Peel.

7 00 CHANNEL FOUR NEWS; at 7.50 Comment by Robert Hutchison, and Weather.

8 00 BROOKSIDE.

8 30 HOLIDAY TALK—Pamela Stephenson recalls her visit to Disneyland in California and Vicki Leon offers some tips on making the most of your dollars.

9 00 "MOTHER, JUGS AND SPEED" (1974). Uneven but sometimes quite hilarious black comedy involving a run-down ambulance service more concerned with the number of customers serviced than their welfare. With Bill Cosby, Racquel Welch, Harvey Keitel and Larry Hagman, who is particularly amusing as an oversexed driver.

10 45-11.40 BLACK ON BLACK — Magazine programme for Britain's black communities.

** Outstanding. * Recommended.

ITV REGIONS

TVS

6 15 Good Morning.
9 25 TVS Outlook.
9 30 For Schools.
12 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow.
12 30 The Sullivans.
1 00 News; TVS News.
1 30 A Country Practice.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Questions, rpt.
3 27 TVS News; The Young Doctors.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Sons and Daughters.
5 45 News.
6 00 Coast to Coast.
6 25 Police 5.
6 35 *Crossroads.*
7 00 Emmerdale Farm.
7 30 Busman's Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News: TVS News.
10 30 Widows: crime - drama series, rpt. Part 1.
12 30 Company.

Anglia

6 15-9.25 Good Morning.
9 30 For Schools.
12 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow, rpt.
12 30 Gardens for All.
1 00 News; Anglia News.
1 30 Strangers, rpt.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Gambit.
3 25 Anglia News.
3 30 The Young Doctors.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Emmerdale Farm.
5 45 News.
6 00 About Anglia.
6 35 Crossroads.
7 00 Diff'rent Strokes.
7 30 *Busman's* Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant, rpt.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News; Anglia News.
10 30 Widows — part 2: crime-drama series, rpt.
12 25 A Question of Lent.

Central

6 15-9.25 Good Morning.
9 30 For Schools.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow.
12 30 Gardening Time.
1 00 News: Central News.
1 30 Strangers.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Gambit.
3 25 News.
3 30 The Young Doctors.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Keep It in the Family.
5 45 News.
6 00 Crossroads.
6 25 Central News.
7 00 Emmerdale Farm.
7 30 Busman's Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News: Central News.
10 30-12.25 Widows — part 2: crime-drama series, rpt.

Yorkshire

6 15 Good Morning.
9 25 Weather.
9 30 For Schools.
12 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow.
12 30 Calendar Tuesday.
1 00 News; Calendar News.
1 30 Strangers.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Gambit.
3 25 News.
3 30 A Country Practice.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Dreams.
5 45 News.
6 00 Calendar.
6 35 Crossroads.
7 00 Emmerdale Farm.
7 30 Busman's Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News.
10 30-12.25 Widows — part 2: crime-drama series, rpt.

HTV

6 16-9.25 Good Morning.
9 30 For Schools.
12 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow.
12 30 The Sullivans.
1 00 News; HTV News.
1 30 Strangers, rpt.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Gambit; HTV News.
3 30 The Young Doctors.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Beverly Hillbillies: B/w. Repeat.
5 45 News.
6 00 HTV News.
6 35 Crossroads.
7 00 Emmerdale Farm.
7 30 Busman's Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant, rpt.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News; HTV News.
10 30 Widows — part 2: crime-drama series, rpt.
12 25 Weather.
HTV Wales: 6 p.m.-6.35 Wales at Six.

S4C

1 00 Countdown.
1 30 Alice.
2 00 Hwnt Ac Yma.
2 20 Ffalabalam.
2 35-2.55 Daearyddiaeth.
3 25 The Late, Late Show.
4 20 A Plus 4.
4 50 Ffalabalam.
5 05 Bilidowcar.
5 35 Project UFO.
6 30 Larwm.
7 00 Newyddion Saith.
7 30 Cefn Gwlad.
8 00 The Dragon Has Two Tongues.
8 30 Relative Strangers; Penawdau Newyddion.
9 00 Elinor Ac Eraill.
9 45 The Cosby Show.
10 15 City General.
10 45-12.25 "Who's That Knocking at My Door?" (1963 crude but fascinating autobiographical drama, directed by Martin Scorsese): Harvey Keitel.

TSW

6 15-9.25 Good Morning.
9 30 For Schools.
12 00 Cockleshell Bay.
12 10 Rainbow.
12 30 Look Who's Talking: John Inman.
1 00 News: Local News.
1 30 Strangers, rpt.
2 30 Daytime.
3 00 Gambit.
3 30 Sons and Daughters.
4 00 Cockleshell Bay.
4 15 The Moomins.
4 20 Bunnicula, the Vampire Rabbit.
4 45 CBTV.
5 15 Gus Honeybun.
5 20 Crossroads.
5 45 News.
6 00 Today South West.
6 30 Televiews.
6 40 Consumer Check.
7 00 Who's the Boss?
7 30 Busman's Holiday.
8 00 Up the Elephant, rpt.
8 30 Chance in a Million.
9 00 Television.
10 00 News: Local News.
10 34 Widows — part 2: crime-drama series, rpt.
12 25 Postscript.
12 30 *Weather; Shipping.*

Channel

9 30 *For Schools.*
12 00-5.15 As TSW.
5 15 Wattoo, Wattoo.
5 20 Gulliver.
5 45 News.
6 00 *Channel Report.*
6 30 Secrets of the Coast.
7 00-12.25 As TSW.
12 25 Commentaires et Previsions Meteorologiques; Weather.

Open University

BBC 2 TV: 6.55 a.m.-7.20 D102. 11.50 p.m. SD286. 12.15 a.m.-12.45 U204.
Radio 4 VHF: 11.30 p.m. Open Forum. 11.50-12.10 S101.
Radio 3 VHF: 6.35 a.m.-6.55 D102.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO

6 a.m. Newsdesk. 7 World News. 7.9 Twenty-four Hours. 7.30 Seven Wonders of the Modern World. 7.45 Network U.K. 8 World News. 8.9 Reflections. 8.15 Sins of Old Age. 8.30 The Elements of Music. 9 World News. 9.9 British Press Review. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 What's New. 10.30 News. 10.1 Discovery. 11 World News. Crevasse Jump. 11.9 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London.

12 noon Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Foreign Correspondents. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1 World News. 1.9 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network U.K. 1.45 Recording of the Week. 2 Outlook. 2.45 In Spite of Ourselves. 3 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 A Jolly Good Show. 4 World News. 4.9 Commentary. 4.15 Omnibus. 4.45 The World Today. 5 World News. 5.9 Meridian. 5.40 Scotland this Week.

8 p.m. World News. 9.15 Concert Hall. 10 World News. 10.9 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland this Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11 World News. 11.9 Commentary. 11.15 Romantic Piano. 11.30 Meridian.

12 midnight World News. 12.9 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Omnibus. 1 News. 1.1 Outlook. 1.30 Report on Religion. 1.45 Country Music Profile. 2 World News. 2.9 British Press Review. 2.15 Romantic Piano. 2.30 Crevasse Jump. 3 World News. 3.9 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4 Newsdesk. 4.30 Waveguide. 5.45 The World Today.

RADIO

FOUR

5 55 on l-w Shipping.
6 00 News Briefing.
6 10 Farming Today.
6 25 Prayer for the Day.
6 30 Today.
9 00 News.
9 05 Tuesday Call—01-580 4444: The Weather.
10 00 From Our Own Correspondent.
10 30 Morning Story.
10 45 Service.
11 00 "Never Laugh at a Hypochondriac" — play by Patrice Chaplin about two girls involved with the same man. With Patricia Hodge and Alison Steadman.
11 33 Wildlife.
12 00 You and Yours.
12 27 Raymond Chandler in Hollywood: Film critic Tom Hutchinson takes a look at Chandler's life in the tinsel town.
12 55 Weather.
1 00 The World at One.
1 40 The Archers.
1 55 on l-w Shipping.
2 00 Woman's Hour.
3 00 "Summer Visitors"—Repeat of the play by Stephen Fagan about an Indian and his English wife's vacation in a hostile Devon village. With Saeed Jaffrey.
4 00 A Perfectly Colossal Time —a chronicle of singer Clara Butt's impact on King Edward's Antipodean Dominions.
4 40 Story Time: "Miss Mole" (7).
5 00 PM (5.50 on l-w Shipping).
5 55 Weather.
6 00 News; Financial News.
6 30 The Wordsmiths at Gorsemere—An Everyday Story of Towering Genius (3). Repeat.
7 00 News.
7 05 The Archers.
7 20 File on 4: Michael Robinson examines the Government's economic targets a week before the Budget.
8 00 Medicine Now: Geoff Watts reports on AIDS.
8 30 The State of the Vatican (2): Treasures and Treasury.
9 00 In Touch, presented by Peter White.
9 30 Treasure Islands (4): Dominica — Paradise Regained.
9 45 Kaleidoscope, presented by Paul Allen.
10 15 Book at Bedtime: "The Green Man" (7).
10 30 The World Tonight.
11 15 Financial World Tonight.
11 30 Today in Parliament.
12 00-12.15 News, Weather.
12 33 Shipping forecast.

VHF: 11 a.m.-12 For Schools. 1.55 p.m. Listening Corner. 2-3 For Schools. 11 p.m. Study on 4: Crisis in Education. 11.30-12.10 Open University. 12.30 a.m.-1.10 Night-time Schools.

THREE

6 55 Weather.
7 00 News.
7 05 Morning Concert (8-8.5 News).
9 00 News.
9 05 This Week's Composer: Mendelssohn.
10 00 A Summer Tale: Josef Suk's Symphonic Poem.
10 55 French Religious Music, by Poulenc and Caplet: BBC Singers conducted by Simon Joly.
11 40 Weber and Mozart, played by members of the Nash Ensemble, rpt.
12 35 BBC Scottish SO play Schubert's Rosamunde music and Brahms's Symphony No. 1 (1-1.5 News).
1 55 Guitar Encores: Stepan Rak, Nikita Koshkin, rpt.
2 15 Wond'rous Machine: music featuring, or originally written for, the organ: Purcell, Bach orch. Elgar, Mozart, Copland, Bach arr Stravinsky, and Haydn.
4 00 John Anderson (oboe) and Richard Nunn (piano), from Broadcasting House: Ponchielli, Donizetti, Rossini, Sinigaglia, Pasculli.
4 55 News.
5 00 Mainly for Pleasure, presented by Geoffrey Norris.
6 30 Tudor Church Music (2): Robert Whyte.
7 00 Wavesongs—new work by Gordon Crosse, with Alexander Baillie (cello) and Jan Brown (piano).
7 30 BBC PO, Ida Haendel (violin), conducted by Raymond Leppard, from the Free Trade Hall, Manchester: Elgar's Introduction and Allegro for strings, Britten's Violin Concerto and Walton's Symphony No. 1 (8.20-8.40 Heyday's, by Chris Miller: 1, Called to the Bar).
9 35 BBC Singers, conducted by Simon Joly: Jolivet's Epithalame pour orchestre vocal à douze parties.
10 00 *Jazz Today, presented by* Charles Fox, featuring Sirius Musik.
11 00 Warsaw Sinfonietta, conducted by Tomasz Bugaj: Grazyna Bacewicz's Concerto for strings, Wojciech Dankowski's Symphony in F and Tadeusz Baird's Colas Breugnon. Given at the 1984 Brighton Festival.
11 57-12 News.

TWO

4 00 Colin Berry.
6 00 Ray Moore.
8 05 *Ken Bruce.*
10 30 Jimmy Young.
1 05 David Jacobs.
2 00 Gloria Hunniford (including Racing from Cheltenham for the 2.50 & 3.30 races).
3 35 Music All the Way.
4 00 David Hamilton.
6 00 John Dunn.
8 00 Hubert Gregg.
9 00 Radio Orchestra.
9 55 Sports Desk.
10 00 Pop Score.
10 30 The Law Game—new series chaired by Shaw Taylor.
11 00 Brian Matthew.
1 00 Bill Rennells.
3 00-4 Night Owls, rpt.
VHF: 10 p.m.-12 As Radio 1.

ONE

6 00 Adrian John.
7 00 Mike Read.
9 00 Simon Bates.
12 00 Gary Davies (12.30 Newsbeat).
2 30 Steve Wright.
5 00 Bruno Brookes (5.30 Newsbeat).
7 30 Janice Long.
10 00-12 John Peel.

WAVELENGTHS

Radio 1: 1089 kHz, 275 m. 1053, 285. Radio 2: 909, 330, 693, 433. (Radio 1/2 VHF: 88-90·2 MHz). Radio 3: 1215, 247. (90·3-92·5). Radoi 4: 200, 1500. Greater London 720, 417. (92·94·5, 97·1). World Service: 648, 463. Radio London: 1458, 206. (94.9). *LBC: 1152, 261. (97.3).*

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

OPERA & BALLET

* MATINEE TODAY

COLISEUM. S 836 3161 CC 240 5258

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

Ton't, Thurs. 7.00 XERXES. Tomor. Sat. 7.30 COUNT ORY. Fri. 7.30 FIDELIO. *Also Booking: The Bartered Bride.* CC Ticketmaster 01-379 6433.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE COVENT GARDEN. Resv: 01-240 1066/1911. Access, Visa, Diners Club. S. Standby info. 01-836 6903. 65 amphi seats avail. from 10 a.m. on the day. Tickets *Opera* £2·00-£54·00. Ballet £1·00-£20·00.

THE ROYAL BALLET

Ton't, Thurs. 7.30 The Firebird Return to the Strange Land, Number Three (New Corder Ballet) Sat. 7.30 The Sleeping Beauty. Ballet casting info. 01-240 9815.

THE ROYAL OPERA

Tomor., Fri., Mon. 7.30 I Capuleti e i Montecchi. Sat. 8.00 (Please note later starting time) Samson (New production).

SADLER'S WELLS. 278 8916. From Tomor. to March 30, Eves 7.30

BALLET RAMBERT

Prog. 1 until Sat.
278 8855 for Theatrebus & future prog. Grp Sales 930 6123.

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL. Barbican Centre, E.C.2. 01-628 8795/638 8891. Ton't 7.45 GALA CONCERT in aid of The LSO Trust London Symphony Orchestra. Claudio Abbado cond. Guest artists incl. Salvatore Accardo, Thomas Allen, Hermann Prey, Samuel Ramey, Katia Ricciarelli and Tatiana Troyanos.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL. 01-928 3191 c.c. 01-928 8800. Thurs. 8.00 p.m. GALA CONCERT in aid of Help A Child To See. The Chamber Orch. of Europe, Sir Colin Davis, Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich. Mozart, Beethoven in the presence of H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 01-928 3191 CC 928 8800 Tomor 7.30 p.m. ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Jeffrey Tate William Bennett Thea King Mozart: Overture, The Marriage of Figaro; Clarinet Concerto in A, K.622; Flute Concerto in D, K314; Symphony No. 41 (Jupiter).

THEATRES

ADELPHI. 836 7611/240 7913/4. C.C. 741 9999/836 7358. Group sales 930 6123.

THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL "SENSATIONAL, WILL BECOME THE SHOW OF THE YEAR." D. Exp.

ME AND MY GIRL

ROBERT LINDSAY
"An absolutely inspired Performance." Fin. Times.
FRANK THORNTON
EMMA THOMPSON
AND DAZZLING CO. OF 60.
DIRECTED BY MIKE OCKRENT.
"A STUNNING PRODUCTION, BREATHTAKINGLY INVENTIVE. AN EVENING AND A HALF." Punch.
"A RESOUNDING HIT." S. Mirror.
"TRIUMPHANT." D. Mail.
"HAS A MODERN AUDIENCE HYSTERICAL WITH DELIGHT." S. Tel.
"THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN." E. Exp.
Nightly at 7.30. Mats. Wed. 2.30 & Sat. 4.45 & 8.15.
BOOKING THROUGH SEPT. 28 '85.

ALBERY 836 3878. CC 379 6565/379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123 836 3962. Eves. 8.0. Thurs. Mat. 3.0. Sat. 5.00 & 8.15.
PATRICK MOWER — ADRIENNE POST
"Dashing rakish." "Impish vivacity." Gdn. D. Tel.
ROYCE MILLS — ISABELLE AMYES
"Brilliant." "Subtle sex appeal." D. Tel. D. Mail.
JAMES ROOSE-EVANS' "SPRIGHTLY PRODUCTION." St.

THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH

by GEORGE AXELROD
SPARKLING COMEDY." D. Tel.

ALDWYCH THEATRE. 836 6404/0641 CC 379 6233. Group Sales 930 6123. Mon.-Thurs. 8, Fri. & Sat. 5 & 8.30.
ROWAN ATKINSON in

THE NERD

by LARRY SHUE
Directed by MIKE OCKRENT
"An ambulatory Amityville Horror ... a wonderful display of grotesque comedy." Gdn. "RIB-SHATTERINGLY FUNNY." I. Obs. "BLISSFULLY LUDICROUS." F.T.
LAST WEEK—MUST END SATURDAY.

ALDWYCH THEATRE. 01-836 6404/0641. C.C. 379 6233. Reduced price Previews from March 22. Evenings at 7.30, Sats 4.0 (ex. March 23) & 8.0. Mats. Wed. 2.30. OPENS APRIL 1.
PAUL EDDINGTON & FELICITY KENDAL
SIMON CADELL in
TOM STOPPARD'S

JUMPERS

with ANDREW SACHS
Directed by PETER WOOD.

AMBASSADORS. 836 6111. C.C. 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. Eves 8.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
LITTLE THEATRE OF COMEDY

KELLY MONTIETH

IN ONE

APOLLO VICTORIA. 828 8665. C.C. 630 6262 Group Sales 930 6123

STARLIGHT EXPRESS

Music by
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Lyrics by — Directed by
RICHARD STILGOE — TREVOR NUNN
"A MUSICAL THAT SURPASSES ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION." D. Exp.
Evgs. 7.45. Mats. Tues. and Sat. 3. BOX OFFICE OPEN 10 a.m.-8 p.m. A limited number of seats available for Tues. mat., limited to two per person. Some £2 standing room tickets are available ½-hour before every performance for the unwaged and students.

ASHCROFT, CROYDON. 01-688 9291 cc 01-680 5955. Until 16 March SU POLLARD, MATTHEW KELLY in Rodgers and Hart's musical BABES IN ARMS.

ASTORIA THEATRE Box Office/C.C. 734 4287/8/9. Grp Sales 930 6123. "GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! LR Rev.

THE HIRED MAN

AN EPIC LOVE STORY BY MELVYN BRAGG
HOWARD GOODALL
by arrangement with
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
THE BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR Int. Herald Tribune.
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARDS '84. PAUL CLARKSON — BEST ACTOR. Evgs. 8.0, mats. Wed. 3.0, Sat. 4.0.
MUST CLOSE MARCH 23.
WED. MATS. ALL SEATS £7·50 & £5.

BARBICAN. 01-628 8795/638 8891 cc (Mon.-Sun 10 a.m.-8 p.m.). For mc hotel package 01-330 7111.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

BARBICAN THEATRE MOTHER COURAGE by Brecht. "A magnificent revival." F. Times. Ton't, tomor 7.30, Thurs 2.00 & 7.30, final perfs. 20-21 March (runs 3hrs 10) WHERE THERE'S A WILL ... in aid of the Ethiopian Appeal. Sunday, 17 March, 7.00 p.m. Day seats £5 from 10 a.m.

THE PIT. BREAKING THE SILENCE by Poliakoff ton't, tomor 7.30, Thurs 2.00 & 7.30, final perfs. 20-21 March (runs 3½hrs). THE DEVILS final perfs. 15-19 March.
Booking Now Open for HAMLET, RICHARD III, HENRY IV.

CHURCHILL (Bromley 18 mins. rail Victoria). Tel. 01-460 6677. Until March 30.

THE REAL THING

by Tom Stoppard.
Starring CHRISTOPHER TIMOTHY & PATRICIA BRAKE. Eves. 7.45 (Sat. 8 p.m.) Tues. & Sat. Mats. Thurs 14 ... at 2.30. Seats £1·50 - £5·40 plus concessions.

COMEDY. 930 2578. CC 839 1438. Eves 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. THE MONSTER MUSICAL HIT

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

2nd FINGER LICKIN' YEAR! ! "I LOVED IT—HOPE IT RUNS FOR 1,000 YEARS." Time Out. SEATS AT SOME PERFS FROM £6.50 Group Sales Box Office 930 6123

COTTESLOE. 928 2252. CC 928 5933. "S" (National Theatre's small auditorium—low price tkts). Ton't, Tomor 7.30, then March 14 to 16 & March 19 & 20. Last perfs the Pulitzer prize-winning play GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS by David Mamet.

CRITERION. S. 930 3216. C.C. 379 6565/741 9999/379 6433. Groups 836 3962. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Thurs. 2.30. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST
The Theatre of Comedy Company
ROBIN ASKWITH — JACK SMETHURST
PETER SALLIS
PRUNELLA GEE — SERETTA WILSON
TIMOTHY CARLTON
PAUL TOOTHILL — DAVID MASTERMAN
in

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE

Written and Directed by
RAY COONEY
Over 800 side-splitting performances. "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE." S. Exp. Seats £4·50 to £9·50. Special Theatre Dinner Criterion Brasserie / Stall or Circle tkt. £14·60.

DONMAR WAREHOUSE. Earlham St, Cov. Gdn. C.C. 379 6565. Eves 7.30. DRUID THEATRE CO. IRELAND in

PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD

2 seats for the price of 1 every Mon.!!

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL. 01-836 8108. 01-240 9066. 01-240 9067.
DAVID MERRICK'S

42ND STREET

"The show has now swept up all the top prizes for musicals." D. Exp.
BEST MUSICAL
Standard Drama Awards
"Exhilarating." D. Tel.
BEST MUSICAL
Laurence Olivier Awards
"Dazzling." D. Mail.
BEST MUSICAL
Plays & Players
London Theatre Critics Award
"You won't find a show in London with more razzle dazzle." D. Exp.
Evgs 8.00. Mats Wed. 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8.30. Group Sales 01-930 6123. Booking until July 1986.
BOX OFFICE OPEN Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

DUCHESS THEATRE. 836 8243. 240 9648.
COLIN BLAKELY — DOROTHY TUTIN
in

OTHER PLACES

by HAROLD PINTER
Directed by KENNETH IVES.
Evgs Mon.-Thurs. 7.30, Fri./Sat. 6.0 and 8.30.

DUKE OF YORK'S. 836 5122/9837. Evgs 8, Thurs. mat. 3, Sat. 5 & 8.30. "TRIUMPH ON TAP." Evg. Std.

STEPPING OUT

A new comedy by RICHARD HARRIS
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award 1984
"HAD THE FIRST NIGHT AUDIENCE YELLING FOR MORE." D.M.
"MUST SURELY TAKE THE TOWN." D. Tel.

FORTUNE. S. 836 2238 CC. FINAL WEEK. Eves 8; Thurs. & Sat. Mats 3.

MARGARET WOLFIT

THE MILL ON THE FLOSS
"Beguiling acting performance." Stage.

FORTUNE. S 836 2238 cc Red. Price Prevs from 19 March. Opens 26 March UP 'N' UNDER
THE COMEDY OF THE YEAR.

GARRICK. S. C.C. 01-836 4601. Evgs 8.0. Wed. Mat. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.0. C.C. 379 6433. Group sales 01-930 6123.
13th HYSTERICAL YEAR LONGEST-RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD.

NO SEX, PLEASE— WE'RE BRITISH

3 HOURS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER. Directed by Alan Davis.
OVER 5,500 FANTASTIC PERFS.

GLOBE. C.C. 437 1592
Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Soc of West End Theatres Award 1983

DAISY PULLS IT OFF

by Denise Deegan.
Directed by David Gilmore.
"ABSOLUTELY SPIFFING." D. Tel.
"FULL MARKS FOR DAISY." Std.
"A good start to Daisy for a delightful show." D. Mail. Evgs 8.0. mats. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 4.0.
Group sales 930 6123
"THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE HOOT AND A SCREAM." Sunday Times.
SECOND GREAT YEAR.

GREENWICH THEATRE. 01-858 7755. Evgs. 7.45, mat. Sat. 2.30. MY BROTHER'S KEEPER by NIGEL WILLIAMS. "A very Good New Play." "Works as well at Touching." Gdn. "The acting and production are impeccable." S. Times.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 930 9832. Group Sales 930 6123.
MAGGIE SMITH — JOAN PLOWRIGHT
and MICHAEL JAYSTON
THE CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE PRODUCTION OF

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

Directed by William Gaskill.
"Maggie Smith returns to our stage in glory." F. Times. "The most outstanding achievement was that of Joan Plowright." Standard. "William Gaskill's super production." Punch. Evgs. 7.30, mats. Wed. 2.30, Sat. 3.0.
MAGGIE SMITH—ACTRESS OF THE YEAR, STANDARD DRAMA AWARD.
LAST 5 WEEKS.

HER MAJESTY'S. 01-930 6606. C.C. 01-930 4025. Group sales 930 6123.

WEST SIDE STORY

"FINGER-CLICKING GOOD." Std.
"THE BEST MUSICAL EVER WRITTEN." City Limits.
Mon.-Fri. evgs 7.30. Sat. 4.45, 8.0. Mat. Wed. 2.30. NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 28, 1985.

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Dnr 6.45. Show 7.45. LOOK TO THE RAINBOW. A New Musical.

LONDON PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30, mats. Wed. & Sat. 2.45. MATINEE TOMORROW 2.45. SEATS AVAILABLE AT DOORS
LONDON'S GREAT STAR-STUDDED SPECTACULAR MUSICAL

TOMMY STEELE IN SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

with ROY CASTLE.
"TOMMY STEELE'S MERE PRESENCE ON THE STAGE LIGHTS UP THE ENTIRE THEATRE." S. Times.
BOOKING OPEN NOW FOR ALL PERFORMANCES TO NEXT JUNE. Credit Cards 01-437 2055/734 8961. Night/Sunday Answerphone 01-437 6892.

LYRIC HAM'S CC 741 2311. Evgs. 7.45. Mat Thur 2.30. Sat 4.0.

LITTLE EYOLF

"Compelling drama and a magnificent cast." Mail on Sun. "DIANA RIGG'S Rita is superb." Gdn. "RONALD PICKUP'S performance is heavy with greatness." S. Tms. "CHERYL CAMPBELL microscopically sensitive." Tms. EXTENDED TO MARCH 30.

LYRIC STUDIO: Evgs. 8.0. A STATE OF AFFAIRS by Graham Swannell. "Excellent acting." F.T. "Knocks spots off most things in the West End." S. Times. "Very funny." Tms. EXTENDED TO MARCH 30.

LYRIC. Shaftesbury Ave., 437 3686/7. CC 434 1050. 434 1550. Evgs 8.0. Wed. Mats. 3.0. Sat. 5.30 & 8.30.
UNTIL MARCH 30
THE NATIONAL THEATRE PRODUCTION
JULIE WALTERS — IAN CHARLESON

FOOL FOR LOVE

by Sam Shepard.
Directed by Peter Gill
"Blazingly impressive performances in a throat-clutcher of a play." Mail on Sunday.

LYTTELTON. 928 2252. CC 928 5933. "S" (National Theatre's proscenium stage). Ton't. Tomor 7.45. Thurs. 3.00 (low price mat.) & 7.45, then March 28 to April 2 THE ROAD TO MECCA by Athol Fugard.

MAYFAIR. CC 01-629 3036. Mon.-Thurs. 8. Fri., Sat. 5.40 and 8.10 RICHARD TODD in THE BUSINESS OF MURDER.

MERMAID THEATRE. 01-236 5568. LOU HIRSCH DUNCAN PRESTON and SUSAN PENHALIGON in

OF MICE AND MEN

STEINBECK'S
timeless masterpiece.
Over 100 performances.
Eves. 7.30, Mats. Thurs. Sat. 3.00. C.C. 01-741 9999. Grp sales 01-930 6123 Sats any Keith Prowse. No Booking Fee. Licensed Food Bar. Open 12-3 p.m. 5-7 p.m.

MERMAID THEATRE. 01-236 5565. The New Shakespeare Company. In association with Lloyds Bank, present

SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS

EXPLORING HAMLET & OTHELLO Now sold out. 20 is is held at door. THE ROMAN TRAGEDIES Julius Caesar & Anthony & Cleo. Sold out except Mar. 20, 22, 11.30 am start.

NATIONAL THEATRE. South Bank. NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER / LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE Excellent cheap seats on day of perfs all three theatres from 10 a.m. RESTAURANT 928 2033. CHEAP EASY CAR PARK.

NEW LONDON. Drury Lane. W.C.2. 01-405 0072 CC 01-404 4079 Eves 7.45. Tues. & Sat. 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T. S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL

CATS

Group Bookings 01-405 1567 or 01-930 6123 (Apply daily to Box Office for returns). LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 p.m. Now booking to Feb. 1, '86. Alternative CC Booking 379 6131. Pu. applications now being accepted from Sept. 2 to Feb. 1 '86.
THE LONGER YOU WAIT
THE LONGER YOU'LL WAIT.

OLD VIC. 928 7616 cc 261 1821. LAST WEEK. Eves. 7.30. Wed. Mats 2.30. Sats 4.0 & 7.45.
ANTHONY HOPKINS
SAMANTHA EGGAR — ALAN DOBIE
COLIN FIRTH in

THE LONELY ROAD

by Arthur Schnitzler.
Directed by Christopher Fettes
"TRIUMPHANT ... A MASTERWORK." Gdn.
"ANTHONY HOPKINS A SENSATIVE AND TELLING PERFORMANCE." Sunday Telegraph.
"IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE TO SEE MR HOPKINS BACK ON STAGE." Financial Times.
"A POWERFUL EMOTIONAL DRAMA." Gdn.
SO EASY, SO SIMPLE TO BOOK—JUST RING 01-261 1821 AND CHARGE IT TO YOUR CREDIT CARD NOW! NO BOOKING FEE. SEE 4 SHOWS INC. THE LONELY ROAD FOR AS LITTLE AS £2·50 EACH!

OLD VIC. 928 7616 CC 261 1821. FROM MARCH 26 FOR A LIMITED SEASON
PATRICK CARGILL — ANTHONY QUAYLE
MAXINE AUDLEY

AFTER THE BALL IS OVER

The new comedy by
WILLIAM DOUGLAS HOME
Directed by Maria Aitken.

OLIVIER. 928 2252 CC 928 5933 'S' (National Theatre's open stage). Today 1.45, then mats March 19 to 21 at 2.00 (low family prices) THE ANCIENT MARINER by Coleridge, version by Michael Bogdanov. Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 (low price mat) 7.15, then March 29 to April 1 CORIOLANUS by Shakespeare.

PALACE THEATRE. 437 6834. C.C. 437 8327/379 6433. Grps 930 6123. THE MOST WINNING MUSICAL
GALINA PANOVA
HONOR BLACKMAN — JOHN BENNETT
TIM FLAVIN
Rogers & Hart's

ON YOUR TOES

with SIOBHAN McCARTHY
and NICHOLAS JOHNSON
On Wednesday evening and Saturday matinees the leading role will be
DOREEN WELLS
"SHEER BLISS." D. Tel.
Evgs. 7.45, mat. Thurs. and Sat. 2.30. Pre-theatre buffet from 6.45

PALACE THEATRE BAR, Cambridge Circus 437 6834.

LUNCHTIME

FOOD, MUSIC, WINE AND ART ENTERTAINMENT DAILY AT 1 P.M. Admission free. Fully licensed 11-3. *Pub prices.*

PHOENIX THEATRE. 240 9661 CC 836 2294/379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123. Mon.-Thu. 7.45, Fri./Sat. 5.30 & 8.20.
GRIFF RHYS JONES
GWEN TAYLOR in
TRUMPETS AND RASPBERRIES
A New Comedy
DARIO FO
INSPIRED CLOWNING. S. Tel.
"INSPIRED FUN." Standard.
"INSPIRED INVENTION." D. Mail.
"INSPIRED NONSENSE." Fin. Times.
"BLISSFULLY FUNNY." Times.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. CC 379 6565 379 6433. 741 9999. Group sales 930 6123. 836 3962. Evgs. 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 6.0 & 8.45.
Paul Jones
Kiki Dee — Brian Protheroe
Gary Holton
Carlene Carter — Julian Littman
THE ACCLAIMED FUN MUSICAL

PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES

"IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO HAVE A GOOD TIME." B.B.C.
"Non-stop action. It's just one heck of a lot of fun." D. Mirror.

PRINCE EDWARD. 01-437 6877. 8. 01-930 4025. Group sales 930 6123.

EVITA

THE GIANT OF MUSICALS
Dir. by Hal Prince. Evgs. 8.00, mats. Thurs. and Sat. at 3.0. C.C. Hotline 439 8499. 379 6433. 631 1101. 741 9999. Group Sales 01-930 6123.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. 01-930 8681/2. C.C. hotline 01-930 0844/5/6. Group Sales 01-930 6123.
RUSS ABBOT
SHEILA WHITE
in

LITTLE ME

"AMONG THE GREAT BLOCKBUSTING MUSICALS OF OUR TIME." D. Mail. "POSITIVELY SPARKLES." S. Exp. "THE FUNNIEST MUSICAL NEW YORK HAS EVER SENT US." D. Tel. Evgs. 7.30, mats. Thur. & Sat. 3.0. Special rate for OAPs/students/children at certain performances. Reduced price Thurs. mats.
LAST 11 WEEKS

PRINCE OF WALES. 01-930 8681/2. C.C. HOTLINE. 01-930 0844/5/6. Group Sales 01-930 6123. K. Prowse 01-741 9999.
THE NATIONAL THEATRE'S AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
GUYS AND DOLLS
Opens June 19. Bkg through Jan. '86.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. 734 1166. 734 1167. 734 0261. 734 0120. 439 3849. 439 4031. Grp Sales 930 6123.
CHARLTON HESTON
and
BEN CROSS
in
HERMAN WOUK'S

THE CAINE MUTINY COURT MARTIAL

"Heston ... presents a chilling portrait of spiritual ruin. This is an actor of stature." S. Times
"More than enough drama to keep anyone on the edge of their seat." D. Exp.
Evgs. Mon.-Fri. 7.30, Sat. 8.15. Mats. Wed. 3, Sat. 5.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE. Stratford-Upon-Avon (0789) 295623. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Now booking for R.S.C.'s exciting new Stratford season opening March 28th with THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. AS YOU LIKE IT from April 11, TROILUS & CRESSIDA from June 20. The Other Place season opens with PHILISTINES on March 30. For special meal/theatre and hotel stopover deals ring 0789 67262.

SAVOY. Box Office 01-836 8888. C.C. 01-379 6219. 01-836 0479. Evgs 7.45. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 and 8.30.
THE AWARD-WINNING WEST END AND BROADWAY COMEDY HIT
MICHAEL MEDWIN
JOSEPHINE TEWSON — HUGH PADDICK
ROLAND CURRAM
DILYS WATLING — PHILIP BIRD

NOISES OFF

Directed by Michael Blakemore.
"After two years Michael Frayn's comedy is still wildly funny." Times.
OVER 1,200 PERFORMANCES.

SHAFTESBURY. 379 5399. CC 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. Evgs 8.0. Sat 5.0 & 8.30. Wed. mat 3.0.
THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
DONALD SINDEN
"A Grand Master." Std.
MICHAEL WILLIAMS
"Truly Hilarious." Std.
BARBARA MURRAY
and LIONEL JEFFRIES in

TWO INTO ONE

Written & Directed by
RAY COONEY
"The most hilarious production yet mounted by Mr Cooney's Theatre of Comedy." F.T.
"CLASSIC ... FIRST RATE FARCE." Gdn.

ST MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Special C.C. No 01-379 6433. Evgs. 8.0. Tues. 2.45. Sat. 5.0 & 8.0.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S

THE MOUSETRAP

33rd YEAR
SORRY, but no reduced prices from any source, but seats bookable from £3·50.

STRAND. W.C.2. 01-836 2660/4143. 5190. Mon.-Fri. Evenings 8.0. Mats. Wed. 2.30, Saturdays 5.30 & 8.30.
RICHARD BRIERS
DIANE FLETCHER — POLLY HEMINGWAY

WHY ME?

"STANLEY PRICE'S GOOD COMEDY A BRIGHT, ALERT, DEFTLY-OBSERVANT PLAY." Guardian.
With LIZ SMITH.
Directed by ROBERT CHETWYN.

VAUDEVILLE. 01-836 9987/836 5645. Evgs. 7.45. Wed. 2.30. Sat. 5.0. 8.30.
WINNER OF ALL 3 MAJOR AWARDS
BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR
Standard Drama Award.
Laurence Olivier Award.
Plays and Players London Critics Award
POLLY ADAMS — CLIVE FRANCIS
JAN WATERS — GLYN GRAIN
MICHAEL FRAYN'S NEW PLAY

BENEFACTORS

Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE.

VICTORIA PALACE. 01-834 1317/828 4735. Evgs. 7.30. Matinees Wed. (ex. March 13) & Saturdays 2.45. A few returns available for opening night Thurs. next.

MICHAEL CRAWFORD IN BARNUM

THE CIRCUS MUSICAL
NOW BOOKING TO JULY 6th.

WINDSOR THEATRE ROYAL 95 53888. *Running until 16th March*

STEAMING

by NELL DUNN.
Considered unsuitable for Children.

WYNDHAM'S. 836 3028. CC 379 6565/379 6433/741 9999. Groups 930 6123/836 3962. Evgs. 8.0. Wed. mat. 3.0, Sats. 5.0 and 8.15.
"A VERY FUNNY SHOW." Obs.
SUE TOWNSEND'S
THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE
AGED 13¾
Music and lyrics by
KEN HOWARD & ALAN BLAIKLEY
"LIVELY SPARKISH HUMOUR." Gdn.
"ACUTE AND FUNNY." Std.

YOUNG VIC. 928 6363. Until Sat. HAMLET
Evgs 7.0, Wed. & Fri. Mats 1.30. "The Best Shakespeare at the Young Vic for years." D.T.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Ton't 7.30 Rose Bruford College Community Arts in CAN'T PAY WON'T PAY.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. THE TAVIANO'S KAOS (15). Sep. perfs. weekdays 2.30, 7.25; Sun. 3.40, 7.25.

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Olivier's RICHARD III (U). Film at 2.0 (not Sun.), 5.0, 8.0.

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Marcel Carne's LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (PG). Film at 4.10 and 7.30.

CHELSEA CINEMA. 351 3742. King's Road (nearest Tube Sloane Sq.). A PRIVATE FUNCTION (15). Film at 2.35, 4.35, 6.50, 9.0. Advance booking last performance only.

CURZON MAYFAIR. Curzon Street, W.1. 499 3737. James Mason, Edward Fox in THE SHOOTING PARTY (15). "Superb." S. Exp. "A brilliant film." BBC. Film at 2.0 (not Sun.), 4.10, 6.20 and 8.40.

CURZON WEST END. Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1. 01-439 4805. Vanessa Redgrave, Judi Dench, Ian Holm in David Hare's WETHERBY (15). Film at 2.00 (not Sun.), 4.10, 6.20, 8.40 Seats at £4·00 bookable in advance for 8.40 perf. daily also 6.20 perf. Sat. & Sun. Winner of Golden Bear Award, Berlin 1985.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE. (930 5252 ENQ). 839 1759 (24 hour access/Visa booking). IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES (15). Sep. progs 2.00, 5.45, 8.35. Advance Booking for 5.45, 8.35 perfs.

LUMIERE CINEMA. 379 3014/836 0691 St. Martins Lane, W.C.2 (Nearest Tube Leicester Sq). Edgar Reitz HEIMAT (15). TODAY Part Three at 1.50 p.m.; Part Four at 7.15 p.m. STARTS THURS. 14 MARCH, Rosi's CARMEN (PG). Film at 1.25, 4.30, 7.45. Seats Bookable for 4.30 & 7.45 Perfs.

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738). COUNTRY (PG). Sep. progs 2.00, 5.45, 8.35. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa Telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). Info 930 4250/4259. BRAZIL (15). Sep. progs. Doors open 1.15, 4.30, 7.45. Advance Booking for 7.45 perf. Access and Visa phone bookings welcome. Credit Hot Line 839 1929. 24 hour service. £2·00 seats Monday all perfs.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011). PAVLOVA (U). Sep. progs. Doors open 2.00, 5.00, 8.00. Reduced prices for under 16's.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, IN MEMORIAM AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ..... £4·50 a line (minimum 2 lines)

Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender may be sent to THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 135 Fleet Street, London E.C.4, or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to:—
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FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc., on Court Page £8 a line.
Court Page announcements cannot be accepted by telephone.

BIRTHS

AMMORE.—On March 9, to SALLY (nee Hartland-Maitland) and ROBIN, a son (James Owain Faulkner), a brother for Miles.

ANGUS.—On Feb. 24, 1985, in Sydney, to Jan (nee Landlord) and IAN, a daughter (Claire Frances Elizabeth), a sister for Stuart Peter.

BARKER-BENFIELD.—On March 11, to MARION and CHARLES, a beloved daughter (Willemyn Albertine), a sister for Roderick and Marieke.

BLACKMAN.—On March 9, to ELIZABETH (nee Stratton) and STEVEN, a daughter, a sister for Thomas and Joseph.

BRADY.—On Feb. 28, at B.M.H., Jerusalem, to MATILDA (nee Hutchinson) and SHAUL, a son (Timothy Guy Antonio), a brother for Sharon.

BRYANT.—On March 5, 1985, to ERICA and JOHN, a son (Thomas Malcolm Stuart), a brother for Marcus and Andrew.

BULLEN.—On March 9, to ANNE (nee D'Arcy) and JULIAN, a son (Christopher John Foster), a brother for Kathy.

CHADDOCK.—On March 5, 1985, at Luton and Dunstable Hospital, to SUSAN (nee Roberts) and ANDREW, a daughter (Sarah Louise).

CLEMENTS.—On March 7, at King's College Hospital, to ANNA (nee Lee) and ANDREW, a son (Thomas Edward Conrad).

DYSON.—On March 9, to DILYS and JOHN, a daughter (Clare Victoria), sister for David and Robert.

FARRANT.—On March 9, to SUSAN (nee Rainford) and BERNARD, a daughter (Deborah Clare), a sister for Caroline.

HOCKRIDGE. — On March 10, at Charing Hospital, to ANNE (nee Waters) and KEITH, a boy (James Grenville).

JAGELMAN.—On March 9, at the Rotie, Cambridge, to SUSAN and ROBERT, a son (Timothy Alexander James), a brother for Rupert and Zoe.

KELLY. — On March 9, at St Teresa's, Wimbledon, to MIRANDA and DOMINIC, a daughter (Alice), sister to Sabina.

KIRCHNER.—On March 9, to SUE (nee Bennett) and CHARLES, a son (Henry Thomas Charles).

LEFROY.—On March 10, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to SUE (nee Russell-James) and TIM, a daughter (Clementine Alice), a sister for Henrietta.

MACYE.—On March 5, at Broomfield Hospital, Aberystwyth, to JENNIFER and RICHARD, a son (Arthur James).

MAIOR.—On March 11, to HILARY and CHRIS, a son (Sam Ashley), brother for Andrew and Ben.

MARCHMONT.—On March 6, to VANESSA (nee Clabon) and CHRIS, a son (James Edward John), a brother for Helen.

MARTELL.—On March 10, 1985, at Margate Hospital, to SYLVIANE and HENRY, a son (Oliver John), a brother for Thomas Henry.

MENDES.—On March 8, 1985, at Lister Hospital, Stevenage, to SUSANNE (nee Lowe) and JULIO, a son (Marco Anthony).

PAPE.—On March 8, in Cape Town, to FIONA (née Baird) and ROWAN, a daughter, sister for James.

SARGEANT.—On March 10, at the Royal United Hospital, Bath, to LYNNE (nee Fielding) and JOHN, a daughter (Hannah), a sister for Emma.

SCOTT. — On March 8, to DIANA (nee Ward) and RICHARD, a son (David Timothy), a brother for Edward.

SHUCKSMITH.—On March 8, to SUSANNAH (née Dove) and TOM, a son (Philip Dove).

STEVENS. — On March 10, at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to LINDA (nee Smith) and NIGEL, a daughter (Jennifer Laura), a sister for Andrew.

USBORNE.—On March 9, at Yeovil Hospital, to HENRIETTA (née White-Cooper) and RICHARD, a daughter (Alice).

WEST. — On March 3, to KATHRYN (nee Applebee) and ANTHONY, of Ickford, Bucks., a daughter (Amanda Jane). A real smasher!

MARRIAGES

CARDOE—MORGAN.—On Saturday, March 9, at Cumberley, GRAHAM CARDOE, 125, Aldburg Road, London, N.12, to ROSALIND MARY MORGAN, 8, Lime Avenue, Camberley, Surrey.

ODLING—HOWARTH. — On March 8, 1985, in Hobart, Tasmania, NICHOLAS, second son of Mr and Mrs E. ODLING, of The Isle of Lismore, to KATHARINE, only daughter of Dr and Mrs R. HOWARTH, of Haigh, Wigan.

SILVER WEDDINGS

PALIN—ALLAN.—On March 12, 1960, at Hampstead R.O., DERRICK to KATH. Still living at Lubavitch Road, Hampstead.

SHAVE—BRIDGE.—On March 12, 1960, at St Helens, Merseyside, COLIN to RUTH. Now at Rainham, Kent.

RUBY WEDDINGS

BARRACLOUGH—CORNISH. — On March 12, 1945, at St Peter's Church, Aldborough Hatch, Essex, SYDNEY to BARBARA.

PERCY—GEORGE.—On March 12, 1945, at All Souls' Church, Cockfosters, AVE to JOAN. Still living at Sandhurst, Wooler, Northumberland.

DEATHS

ADAMS.—On March 10, at 32, Alexandra Grove, N.12, in his 97th year, HENRY FRANCIS, beloved husband of the late Rose and father of the late Norman, for many years a resident of Manor View, Finchley, N.3. Funeral service Tuesday, March 19, at 11 a.m., at St Michaels, Bingate Village, N.6, followed by cremation at St Marylebone Crematorium. No flowers by his request but, if desired, donations to British Red Cross, Bell Cross House, 11, Blomfield Street, E.C.2.

ADDISON.—On March 10, 1985, MARION CLIBBENS (Mun), of Northwood, beloved sister, aunt and great-aunt. Funeral service at Northwood Hills United Reformed Church (Joel Street), on Monday, March 18, at 10.30 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Northwood Hills United Reformed Church.

AKERMAN.—On March 10, HAROLD WILLIAM, aged 85 years, of Kings Road, Fleet, dearly loved, loving husband for 55 years of Louie. Funeral at St Philip & St James Church, Kings Road, Fleet, Thursday, March 14, at 10.30 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please. Inquiries to Fleet 5254.

ANDERTON.—On March 9, peacefully at home in Jersey in his 94th year, Brigadier WILFRED DUNSTAN ANDERTON, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., late R.A.M.C., dearly loved husband of Margaret. Funeral private. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to the Jersey Branch of the Royal British Legion.

ASHFORD.—On March 8, 1985, suddenly, GLADY, beloved husband of Pat and wonderful father to Nikki and David. Always in our hearts. Funeral service at St Luke's Parish Church, Millard (on A3), on Friday, March 15, at 1.30 p.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers and inquiries to L. F. Linton & Son, North Street, Midhurst. Tel. Midhurst 3264.

ATTWOOD.—On March 10, 1985, passed peacefully away after a short illness, FLORA LILIAN, aged 73 years, of 1, Higher Cleverlands, Northam, Bideford, dearest sister of Evelyn. Funeral service will take place at the North Devon Crematorium 12.30 p.m. on March 14. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Heart and Chest Association, c/o Lloyds Bank, Northam.

ATWOOD.—On March 7, peacefully, AMY LOUISE (Val) ATWOOD, much loved mother and grandmother. The funeral service will take place at St John's Church, Kenton, on March 14, at 3 p.m. Flowers to J. A. Massey & Son, 16-18, Lowlands Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

BABINGTON HILL.—On March 8, peacefully at St George's Retreat, Ditchling Common, Sussex, KATHLEEN, aged 85, beloved wife of the late HAROLD BABINGTON HILL. Requiem Mass at St Edward's Church, Keymer, on Wednesday, March 13, at 12 noon, to be followed by interment. No flowers or letters please.

BACON.—On March 8, 1985, suddenly at home, Eric Smedley, aged 79. Flowers to Blake & Horlock, 27, Silver Street, Enfield. Funeral service Wednesday, March 20, at 11 a.m., Trinity Church, Little Park Gardens, Enfield, and afterwards at Lavender Hill Cemetery, Enfield.

BAGSHAW.—On March 9, after years of suffering bravely borne, JEAN FULTON BAGSHAW (née Christie), of Lomond, The Crescent, Colwall, beloved wife of the late Prebendary Lawrence Bagshaw, M.B.E., of Colwall. Funeral St James's Church, Colwall, Friday, March 15, at 3.30 p.m. All friends are invited. Flowers to F. W. Spilsbury, funeral director, Malvern, or to the church, please.

BAKER.—On March 7, 1985, peacefully in her 87th year, WINIFRED, dear sister of Lucie and much loved aunt of Nicholas and Julian Broad.

BALCHIN.—On March 7, 1985, peacefully, NELLIE (previously Nellie Grundon), in her 95th year, mother of the late George and the late Percy.

BALDWIN.—On Sunday, March 10, at Thameafield, FRANK, aged 90, late of Rightmoor Cross, Henley-on-Thames.

BANDLE.—On March 9, at Frimley Park Hospital, Surrey, EDITH MARION, aged 72, a dearly loved sister and aunt, who will be greatly missed. No flowers by request. Donations to National Trust.

BARBER.—On March 10, ALAN THEODORE, dearly loved husband of Dorothy and father of Theodore, Gerald and Joanna. Master, then Headmaster of Ludgrove, from 1930-1973. Private cremation on Friday, March 15. Family flowers only. Memorial service at All Saints' Church, Wokingham, on Wednesday, March 27, at 3pm.

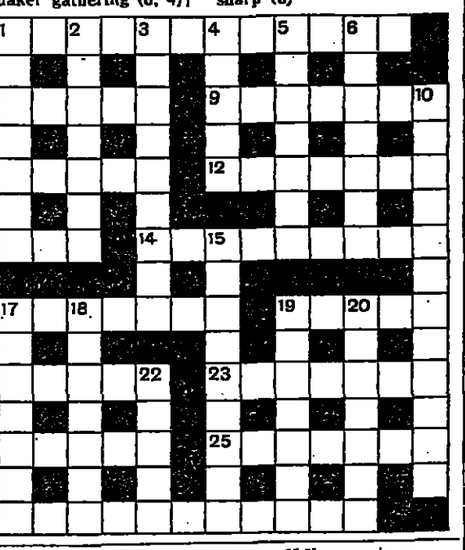
(Continued on Column Six)

No. 18,397 ACROSS

1 Good enough for a city's star of variety (12)
8 Criticism about a galley? (7)
9 Resolute supporter though incapacitated (4, 3)
11 Guide to 12 bereft of information (4, 3)
12 Odd ten and eleven, for example, can be so demanding (7)
13 Take to the water with Batman (5)
14 Preetown's transplantation long-standing in Hampshire (3, 6)
16 Odd container in the case of Jamaica? (3, 6)
19 Find a footprint (5)
21 Orwell's banker in Suffolk (7)
23 Edentate a worker has to put up with (3-4)
24 Identification of hidden hoard in a Dodecanese island (7)
25 President's county town (7)
26 One of the pleasant features at a Quaker gathering (8, 4)

DOWN

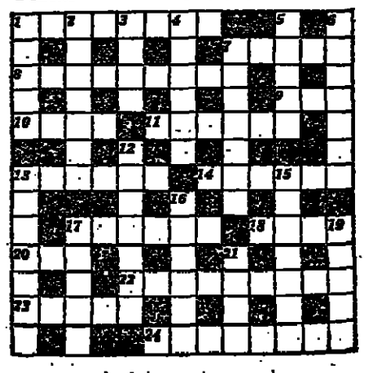
1 Drink wine for Dutch courage! (7)
2 Matched pair—and several more! (7)
3 Assurance for high fliers, not without a catch in it (6, 3)
4 Standpoint of an early settler in these islands (5)
5 A politician in charge going into a Mexican port (7)
6 Calm Mrs Ruff around Long Island (7)
7 A hold-up at the soccer ground (5-7)
10 Lead as soldiers do in wartime (2, 2, 3, 5)
15 Beauty spot audibly seeking a reason for depression (3, 6)
17 He's mean about the party, and indeed wrong (7)
18 Opening for gold provided I join the Council of Europe (7)
19 A Titian fake portraying Oberon's wife (7)
20 Windflower could be one name for it (7)
22 Hard one, note, so made sharp (5)



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Choke
7 Sank a putt
8 Tiredness
9 Faint
10 Extinct bird
11 Young salmon
13 Boil with anger
14 Receive willingly
17 Sparing
18 Chinese vessel
20 Sheep
22 Mouth-organ
23 Seashore
24 Frenzied rush

DOWN
1 Firm
2 Remainder
3 Mr —— Kinnock
4 Paris gallery
5 Cutting edge
6 Unyielding
7 Poisonous plant
12 Contemplated
13 Elongate
16 Learned
16 Mimic
17 Untamed
19 Court card
21 Space



SOLUTION No. 18,396

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Havoc, 4 Uppity, 9 Moorage, 10 Oriel, 11 Grab, 12 Tornado, 13 Zoo, 14 Isle, 16 Step, 18 Ass, 20 Cramped, 21 Skua, 24 Ravel, 25 Profane, 26 Hiding, 27 Ruler. DOWN: 1 Homage, 2 Viola, 3 Clam, 5 Progress, 6 Imitate, 7 Yellow, 8 Lento, 13 Zeppelin, 15 Starved, 17 Scorch, 18 Adept, 19 Career, 22 Kraal, 23 Poor.

For a change on Sunday try your skill with THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH *prize crossword.*

REAGAN TOO BUSY FOR FUNERAL

By RICHARD BEESTON in Washington

PRESIDENT REAGAN, after "careful consideration," decided yesterday not to attend the funeral of Mr Constantin Chernenko and is sending Vice-President George Bush to represent him for the third time at the death of a Soviet leader.

Asked why he was not joining Mrs Thatcher and other world leaders at the funeral, he replied he had "an awful lot on my plate right now."

But, he added, he was looking forward to meeting the new leader, Mr Gorbachev, "as I was with the previous three also.

"I was ready to have a meeting, as they themselves said, at such a time as we hadd a legitimate agenda and not just a meeting to get acquainted."

Canadian visit

Mr Reagan's decision not to go to Moscow was criticised by the chairman of the House foreign affairs committee, Congressman Dante Fascell, as passing up an "important opportunity."

Defending his decision Mr Reagan explained he was host to a visiting head of state, President Mubarak of Egypt, and at the end of the week was due to fly to Canada on a State visit.

"In 48 years," he said, "during eight presidencies prior to mine, there were only three leaders of the Soviet Union. Well we're coming up to the fourth and I've only just started my fifth year.

"You have to wait for a new man now to get in place, establish his regime and then I will be more than ready—because I think there's a great mutual suspicion between the two countries. I thin kthat ours is more justified than their."

Mr Reagan told a group of American editors: "I have sent my condolences to the Soviet leadership and the Soviet people.

Mr Reagan said he was pleased that the United States-Soviet arms negotiations would start on schedule today in Geneva despite Mr Chernenko's death.

NEW SOVIET ERA

By NIGEL WADE

duction teams were apparently sufficient to advance his career even amid poor grain harvests.

President Brezhnev brought Mr Gorbachev into the Politburo in 1980 and President Andropov groomed him for future power. Mr Gorbachev lost to Mr Chernenko in the succession after Mr Andropov died last year

He appeared to take responsibility for ideology and became more closely involved with Foreign affairs. His successful trip to Britain in December, with his elegant wife, Raisa, was a major boost.

The "Crown Prince" appeared to use his position under Mr Chernenko to keep alive President Andropov's limited economic reforms and the campaign started by Andropov for discipline and accountability in all sectors of the economy.

He is a good-humoured, balding man, with a prominent birthmark on his forehead. He has a daughter and a grand-daughter and recently appeared with them before Western correspondents to vote in regional elections.

Mr Gorbachev is the best-educated of the 10 surviving full members of the Politburo. He began his working life driving a harvester in his native Stavropol district of the North Caucasus but by 1955 had graduated in law from Moscow University.

He returned to Stavropol as a Young Communist organiser From 1970-78, Mr Gorbachev was Communist party chief of the Stavropol region. In 1978 he was given a powerful post as a secretary of the party's central committee in Moscow, responsible for agriculture.

His promotion to the Politburo two years later, although he was 20 years younger than most other members, marked him out as a man on his way to the top. He travelled to Canada and to the Portuguese Communist party congress in 1983 and to the funeral of the Italian Communist leader, Sr Berlinguer, last year.

Russians look to Mr Gorbachev as a leader who will develop fresh approaches to old problems which they believe Mr Andropov might have developed had his health not collapsed.

Continued from P1

By NIGEL WADE

Gorbachev takes over

matic appearance, had obviously been ailing and had been absent from public view for nearly two months this year. With Mr Gorbachev well-established as his heir, contingency planning could have gone ahead smoothly.

Another reason could have been a desire to avoid any hint of confusion or dispute in the leadership on the eve of Soviet-American arms talks in Geneva.

The Kremlin ordered yesterday that the talks should begin as planned.

Adding to the business as usual impression, the Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, 75, received his French counterpart, M. Roland Dumas, before the death announcement yesterday.

Call for end of arms race

Tass said Mr Gromyko later proposed Mr Gorbachev as party leader at the central committee meeting.

Tass said Mr Gorbachev assured the party he would strive to ensure continuity in strengthening Russia's economy and defences.

Addressing the central committee, he reaffirmed Moscow's policy of "peaceful coexistence with the West.

Referring to the Geneva talks, he denied that Russia sought unilateral advantage or military superiority. The Soviet Union wanted the United States to understand that its aim was to end the arms race, freeze nuclear weapons and halt the development of new weapons systems on earth or in space.

Black bunting went up in Moscow and a black-edged portrait of Mr Chernenko was hung on the Hall of Columns where last night his body lay in state.

Soviet television showed members of the Central Committee paying their last respects as Mr Chernenko's body lay on a bier of pine twigs and flowers. Mr Gorbachev led other Politburo members, all wearing black armbands, ina minute's silence beside the bier.

The new leader then comforted Mr Chernenko's widow and family.

Foreign leaders are expected to start arriving today for tomorrow's funeral.

Mr Gorbachev is the youngest party leader since Stalin and the seventh since the 1917 Communist Revolution. He is the first party leader to have been born not only since the revolution but also since the death of Lenin.

The 10 full members of the Politburo now fall evenly into half who are over 70 and the other half who are in their 50s and 60s.

The average age of the 10 is 67 but the average in the younger half is only 60, compared with an average of 73 among the older members.

Mr Gorbachev now governs with a 79-year-old Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, a Foreign Minister, Mr Gromyko, who is 75, and a Defence Minister, Marshal Seigei Sokolov, who is 75.

The post of president remains vacant, although Mr Gorbachev said when nominating Mr Chernenko for the presidency last year that it was important to combine it with the party leadership. Party leader is, politically, by far the more powerful position.

Realistic view of the West

Mr Gorbachev's chief rival was thought to be another of the younger men, Mr Grigori Romanov, 62, the former boss of Leningrad. But his challenge failed to materialise.

Speculation in the West about a possible attempt by the old guard to instal the Moscow regional chief, Mr Viktor Grishin, 70, as another stop-gap leader was also not borne out.

Mr Gorbachev is seen as a potential reformer with a more realistic view of the West than some others who might have been chosen. He was groomed by President Andropov as his preferred successor to lead Russia out of the sluggish era.

Mr Chernenko was widely regarded as the weak representative of countless party and State bureaucrats who entrenched themselves under Mr Brezhnev and felt threatened by Mr Andropov's new broom.

Background, cartoon and pictures—Pp 6 & 7;
Editorial Comment—P16

McGAHEY IS BEATEN UP BY TWO MEN

Mr Michael McGahey, leader of the Scottish miners, was the victim of a "brutal" weekend attack in which he suffered a black eye and face injuries which may keep him off work for some time, it was disclosed yesterday.

Two men pounced on the NUM vice-president, who is 60, as he arrived at his home in Edinburgh after a meeting with Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader, in Perth.

"His glasses were smashed, his face cut, and at one point he thought he had a broken nose," said Mr Eric Clarke, the union's Scottish secretary. Police are investigating.

Continued from P1

By DAVID FLETCHER

Prescriptions reach £2

ation said: "This is a further erosion of the NHS and a further restriction of the service. Some people may be unable to pay and may not go to their doctor when they need to."

The British Dental Association said the dental increases were an attempt to boost the revenue from dental treatment charges by as much as 25 per cent.

"We would much rather Government tax the causes of dental disease rather than the treatment."

The Parmaceutical Society, representing retail pharmacists, said there should be no financial barrier between the patient and any medical treatment he needed.

"These increases will undoubtedly cause hardship among certain sections of the community and may even deter some patients from seeking medical advice."

Opposition furious

OUR POLITICAL STAFF write: owler's announcement that the higher prescription charges would effect only a quarter of NHS patients—and the half those getting NHS dental treatment would continue to have it free—appeared last night to have assuaged any fears about the decision among Conservative backbenchers.

They were satisfied that those who could afford to pay the increase should do so to help those who were poor and needy and also to help pay for other NHS vital services.

It was a significant coup with his own backbenchers, given their swiftness to speak out against other unpopular Government measures.

But furious Opposition MPs pointed out that the new £2 charge represente a 10-fold increase in the price of prescriptions since Mrs Thatcher first took office in 1979, when the cost was then 20p. They taunted Mr Fowler to name any other item which hadrisen so dramatically since 1979.

Parliament—P10

IRAN OFFERS TRUCE IN GULF WAR

By Our Diplomatic Staff

After a da yof air raids and shelling from both sides in the Gulf war, Iran last night offered a truce and a senior Iraqi Minister said he was ready to go to the United Nations for talks.

The statements followed the first air raid on the Iraqi capital for more than two years.

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Commons Sketch

PASSING ON THE STAIRS

By EDWARD PEARCE

"LOOK here upon this picture and on this." A Minister going up in the market and a Minister coming down in the world stand in bright-edged contradiction.

The less one thinks about Mr Tom King's spectacularly inadequate performance in the unemployment debate the more charitable it will be, but who wants charity? By contrast, Mr Fowler made his unpopular announcement putting up prescription charges with the same diffidence nad hlf-heartedness as Gen. Sherman marching on Atlanta.

Mr King got off with a quotation from somebody else crudely abusing a bishop and attempted for a full 10 minutes to make an elaborate jokey attack on Labour Party Conference. It was such a joke as no sycophant could mend: He lost the House. Labour talked over him rather than waste time attacking him, and he retreated into aged statistics for which a good home should be found and into yet more quotation.

Kicked on ankle

Having spent 10 minutes trying to get a joke floated without being able to post the collateral of wit, Mr King rounded upon Labour for treating the important issue of unemployment with levity. Mr Ron Leighton, who has talent for such things, kicked him on the ankle.

"Has not the Minister grapsed" he inquired, "the difference betwen livety and derision?" On the strength of yesterday's performance Mr King's prospects are rather less good than those of Mr Chernenko.

Mr Fowler with his rough news on prescription charges had the advantage that Labour are pathologically predictable on this subject. They have been so ever since Hugh Gaitskell betrayed the movement by putting a bob (five pence) on them in 1951.

"Squalid" they shouted and "resign" and "penalty on the sick" and other bright-burnished and original things, also "City slickers" (Prop. May Madden) and — Lord help us — "Francis of Assisi."

Skinner put down

Even so, Labour's concerted attempt to sound like a geriatric ward at rubber-hammer time did not guarantee Mr Fowler success but he has such crispness, such a taste for attack when arguably in the wrong, that nobody laid a walking stick on him.

He found a slogan early and used it till his Backbenches had it by heart. "What do the Opposition want, resources or cuts. I am offering resources: Resources have to be found."

Half the ecret of politics lies in trim little encapsulations which even journalists can understand. "Resources or cuts" is slightly meretricious, but it works. It sounds compassionate and constructive and leave Labour looking, not incredibly, as if they wanted to spend money and haven't worked out where to get it from.

"This heartless Government should resign," said Mr Rob Parry, the semi-animated resurrection who represents Liverpol in every sense of the word. "Trident," said Mr Kevin Barrow, with a fine grasp of the irrelevant.

None of it worked. The Minister waved his £171/2 billion bill for the NHS, the 3½ per cent. contribution made by charges and the great number of prescriptions which are free anyway, and absolutely declined to apologise to anybody.

If it was not quite up to John Biffen's wonderful put-down of Dennis Skinner earlier—"We grammar-school boys must kep together," it was uncharacteristically clear-minded for this Government.

As they say in the City, there are distinct signs of upside potential: Fowlers moved sharply up.

Parliament—P10

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DEATHS (Continued)

BROWN.—On March 9, peacefully at home after a long illness borne with great courage, BARRY STRYON BROWN, C.B.E., superintendent W.R.N.S. (Rtd), late County Nursing Superintendent St John's Ambulance Brigade, Hants, loved and loving cousin of Dawn, Lyn and Sue, foster and friend. Funeral service at All Saints' Church, East Stratton, on Friday, March 15, at 2 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Relief. Inquiries and donations to John Steel & Son Ltd, 6, Cheriton Street, Winchester.

BUCHAN.—On March 8, EDWARD HENRY, of 18, Waldeve Road, Horncastle, dear husband of Elizabeth (Beth). Cremation at Carbeck Crematorium on March 18, at 3.30 p.m. Family flowers only.

BUCHAN.—On March 7, 1985, in an Eastbourne nursing home, WILLIAM FREDERICK BUCHAN, aged 80 years, formerly of The Royal Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh. Funeral service at St James's Church, Spilsby. Family flowers only. Donations, if required, to Save the Children Fund.

CRANSTON.—On March 9, 1985, R. S. (Bob), very special and so deeply loved husband, father and grandpa. Funeral service at Tideswell Church at 9.15 a.m. on Thursday, March 14, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. If desired donations to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

CREIGHTON.—On March 10, at a nursing home, THOMAS MCCLLS CREIGHTON, M.D., aged 95, of 42, Curzon Street, Mayfair, W.1., beloved husband of Betty. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium, 10.30 a.m., March 15. Funeral, clan.

CROSS.—On March 9, in Edinburgh, peacefully, MURIEL YVONNE IDA CROSS, widow of Colonel E. C. Cross, loved mother of Ann Cow and grandmother of Paul, Madeleine, Richard and Alistair. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium, Pentland Chapel, Edinburgh, on Friday, March 15, at 10.45 a.m.

DYMS.—On March 9, 1985, at Salvete Rest Home, Bedford, Rev. EDWARD L. DYMS, aged 94 years, for 57 years Priest of the Anglican Church of Papua, New Guinea, including 10 years Rector of St Paul's, Bedford. 11 a.m., Wednesday, March 13, Committal at St Thomas of Canterbury, Goring-on-Thames, Saturday, March 16, at 2.30 p.m.

DARLINGTON.—On March 10, 1985, peacefully, AMELIA LOUISE, beloved mother of Harold, Bob and Chris, grandmother of Patrick. Service at Worthing Crematorium on Friday, March 15, at 11.30 a.m. Flowers to H. D. Tribe Ltd., 150, Broadwater Road, Worthing 34516.

DAVIDSON.—On Friday, March 8, 1985, peacefully in his sleep, GEORGE ARTHUR, beloved husband of Jean, dearly loved father of Ewen and grandfather of Mark, Kerrie, and Kirsti. Funeral service at St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Blackwater Road, Eastbourne, on Thursday, March 21, at 11.45 a.m., followed by cremation. Family flowers only to Haine & Son Ltd., 19, South Street, Eastbourne. Donations, if desired to St Wilfrid's Hospice, 2, Mill Gate Road, Eastbourne.

DAVIES. — On March 9, 1985, ALFRED CHARLES, in Southport, beloved husband of Jean and father of Janet, Roger, John and Michael. Inquiries Brandwell's, tel. Southport 35252.

DAVIES.—On March 8, peacefully, MIRIAM EILEN (Nell), aged 93 years, of Newport, Gwent, formerly of Rotherham, widow of WILLIAM J. DAVIES, C.M.G., O.B.E., (Consular Service), Jamaica, sister of Gladys and Eric Brown. Private funeral and cremation on Friday, March 15, at 12.20 p.m. Family flowers only.

DELEVINGNE.—On March 8, 1985, passed peacefully into the presence of the Lord, RUTH CONSTANCE, aged 76 years, of 24, King's Avenue, W.5, beloved sister of Muriel and Leslie.

DENNISON.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully at her home, Rolinda, Chipping Campden, JOAN ELIZABETH, dear wife of John Cyril (Joe). Cremation at Oakley Wood Crematorium, Wellesbourne, Warwickshire, on Thursday, March 14, at 2 p.m. No flowers, please, but donations if so desired may be sent to the R.N.L.I., West Quay Road, Poole BH15 1HZ.

DESMARAIS.—On March 7, 1985, in hospital, CLAUDE DESMARAIS, husband of Roberta. Inquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 01-937 0757.

DIEBEL.—On March 9, 1985, in hospital, LEONARD CHARLES (Bob), of Kesgrave, Suffolk, beloved husband of Joan, father of Michael and Richard, also a loving grandfather. Funeral service at Ipswich Crematorium, West Chapel, Friday, March 15, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only. If desired donations for Kesgrave Church Fund, c/o Tony Brown Funeral Parlour, Country Road, Samundham.

DRAKE.—On March 9, peacefully after an illness bravely borne, LAURENCE, of Reading, Berkshire, formerly of Barclays Bank, the beloved husband of Louie. Cremation at Reading on Friday, March 15, at 3 p.m. Flowers may be sent to Cyril H. Lovegrove, 114-116, Oxford Road, Reading.

DUDLEY-FLETCHER.—On Sunday, March 10, suddenly at her home, AUDREY DOREEN (nee Coe), beloved wife of F. M. DUDLEY-FLETCHER, and loving mother of Lish, Jacky and Joanna. Funeral at Greenford Park Cemetery Tuesday, March 19, at 1.15 p.m.

EDWARDS.—On March 10, 1985, at Ashford Hospital, ARTHURS JOHN, beloved husband of Nancy. Funeral on Friday, March 15, at 2 p.m. at St Nicholas Church, Great Rookham. Donations instead of flowers if desired to St Nicholas Church, Great Rookham.

EDWARDS.—On March 6, 1985, suddenly but peacefully at Heath Road Hospital, Joy, a life-long asthmatic but the additional burden of cancer was too much, a Health and Beautician, wife of Tom, ex R.A.F., TAC and Channel Airways, promotion manager Bell Hill, Felixstowe, loving Mother to Jhon and Alison, two grand-children Adrienne, Michelle and Neil and daughter of Pop Lambert. Funeral at the Norton Church, 2.30 p.m., Wednesday, March 13. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Relate, c/o Norton Rectory, Ipswich, for a commemorative stained glass window.

ELIERTON.—On March 7, 1985, peacefully after a short illness, LT-COL LAWRENCE PETER ELIERTON, M.C., Grenadier Guards (Retd.), aged 69. Beloved husband of Susan. Funeral at Woodvale Crematorium, Lewes Road, Brighton, on Monday, March 18, at 2.30 p.m. Flowers, or if preferred, donations to Cancer Chef Hospice, Redhill Drive, Brighton.

ELLINGWORTH. — On March 8, 1985, FRANK, dear husband of Great Walter, Essex, dear husband of Vida, father of Rosalind and John, and grandfather of Ian. Funeral service at the Parish Church Crematorium, Terminator, on Thursday, March 14, at 1.30 p.m. No flowers, please.

EVANS.—On March 10, peacefully at West Waterton Nursing Home, MABEL FLORENCE MAUD (Maud), dear mother of Doreen and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation at Chichester Crematorium on Friday, March 15, at 4 p.m. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired to the Friends of Chichester Hospitals.

FENN.—On March 7, at The Royal Free Hospital after a long illness fought with great courage and dignity, GEOFFREY, beloved husband of Joan and much loved father and grandfather to Chris, Judy and Gwynne. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends. Cremation at Reading Crematorium, Caversham, Thursday, March 14, at 3 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired to Royal Free Leukaemia Fund.

FORGACS.—On March 9, 1985, died peacefully in her sleep at Hillbrow Nursing Home, Lisc, JOAN aged 84, widow of JAMES (Jimmie) COMYLE FORGACS, formerly of East African Railways and Harbours, Dar-es-Salaam and Nairobi. Cremation at Chichester Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 2 p.m. Spring flowers and any inquiries to J. F. Lynton & Son, North Street, Midhurst. Tel. Midhurst 3262.

FOSTER.—On March 9, after a long illness nobly borne, TERVILLE E. R., Post Royal Marines (Retd.), beloved husband of Shelly and loving father and grandfather. Funeral service at The Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth, at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, March 19. No flowers, but donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, 36, Portland Place, London W1N 3DG.

FREEMAN.—On March 8, peacefully, aged 85 years, WALTER PERCIVAL, formerly headmaster of Broadlands School, Keynsham, dearly beloved husband of Margaret. Funeral service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, at 12 noon, Thursday, March 14. No flowers or letters, by request.

FUNNELL. — On March 8, 1985, suddenly at home, DORIS MARY, aged 74 years. Requiem Mass at Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, Monday, March 18, 10.15 a.m., followed by cremation. No flowers by request, but donations for Our Lady's Hospice may be sent to Canon D. Carter, The Rectory, Alfred Street, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

GALLETLY.—On March 11, 1985, in hospital, CHRISTOPHER NESBITT, aged 90 years, Past President of London Scottish Bowling Association, dearly loved husband of the late Nora, father of Ian, in Zimbabwe, Donald, in U.S.A., and grandfather of Mary, in U.S.A. Cremation at Mortlake on Tuesday, March 19, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only, but donations in his memory to British Heart Foundation, 57, Walham Grove, London, S.W.6.

GENDERS.—On March 8, at Buxton, MARIA, aged 93 years, widow of Rev. Victor GENDERS. Service at Macclesfield Crematorium on Thursday, March 14, at 3.30 p.m.

GOLDING.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully at Leolyn, St Leonards-on-Sea, DORIS MARY, wife of the late William Jameson, mother of John. Loved by all her family. Funeral at Oakley Wood Crematorium, Warwick, on Friday, March 15, at 3 p.m.

GOWER.—On March 8, after a short illness bravely borne, ERIC, a fighter to the end. The funeral service will be held at St Theresa's R.C. Church, Bishopsfield, on Monday, March 18, at 3.15 p.m., followed by a private cremation. Donations, if desired, to The British Heart Foundation.

GRAHAM.—On March 9, 1985, peacefully in his sleep after a long illness patiently borne, Capt. JEFFREY GRAHAM, R.E., husband of Zoe Blanche. Funeral service at Wilmington Parish Church on Monday, March 18, at 3 p.m., followed by interment in the churchyard. Flowers may be sent to Haine & Son Ltd, 19, South Street, Eastbourne, or donations if desired to Wilmington Parish Church, c/o Rev. J. Ashby, the Rectory, Wilmington, Sussex.

GRAHAM.—On Saturday, March 9, MARY, LADY GRAHAM, C.B